THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000

Success

BYU men's basketball head coach Steve Cleveland talks about the successful year and the ones to come.

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Dance

The history of an African tribe comes to BYU in the music and dance of "Mandinka Epic."

Page 7

Politics

The College Republicans encourage females to get involved in politics.

Page 5

The Daily Universe

A division of: BYU NewsNet @newsnet.byu.edu

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY PROVO, UTAH VOL. 53 ISSUE 130

s prices may stay high for summer

ciated Press

ON — While oil pro- ill pump more crude tain Wednesday if the vill appear in time to h gasoline prices for iving season — when n normal times keeps

ecision to boost pro- news for our econo- Clinton at a news con- on oil companies "to they can to bring the sumers as quickly as

zation of Petroleum ountries agreed to ction by 1.7 million and other producers to expand production 2-million-barrel-a-day s tripled crude prices months.

r oil dropped a dollar rel Wednesday on the rcantile Exchange. lined from a high of ks ago in anticipation oduction increases.

expected crude prices lining, perhaps by as a barrel by August and ted gasoline prices to price decline.

officials and analysts ay it may take six to r the additional oil to ets and there's no cer- r crude prices will be immediately to con

2

AFP Photo

Oil ministers Bijan Namdar Zangeneh from Iran, left, Ali Rodriguez-Araque from Venezuela and Saud Nasser Al-Sabah from Kuwait talk at a reception given by Austrian President Thomas Klestil for OPEC ministers at the presidential Wiener Hofburg residence in Vienna on Wednesday. Iran said today it would increase oil production from April to "preserve its interests."

U.S. Court to rule on prayer at schools

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A clearly divided Supreme Court returned to the politically volatile subject of school prayer Wednesday as the justices sought to determine whether school districts can let students lead stadium crowds in prayer before high school football games.

Nearly four decades after the court banned organized, officially sponsored prayers from public schools, the justices' questions and comments alternately displayed their concern for both church-state separation and students' free-speech rights.

Justice David H. Souter appeared most critical of a Texas school district's policy allowing pre-game prayers over a stadium's public address system. It "requires these students to sit there while a prayer is going on," he said.

Justice Antonin Scalia, who seemed most sympathetic to the now-suspended policy, noted that it would allow a representative elected by students to give a "message or invocation," adding, "You can't say that in every case it's going to produce a prayer."

A decision will be announced by late June. And as in many of the most divisive cases to confront the nine-member court, the votes of Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Anthony M. Kennedy may prove pivotal.

Both asked numerous questions Wednesday and appeared troubled by the policy at issue. Their questions did not signal which way they might rule. The eventual decision could help clarify the law surrounding school prayer beyond sporting events.

The court's newest venture into the politically volatile issue comes as an ABC News poll says two-thirds of Americans think students should be permitted to lead such prayers.

The poll, based on more than 1,000 interviews, found that 67 percent of those asked favored student-led prayers; 27 percent opposed them and 6 percent gave no opinion. The poll's margin of error was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Earlier this month in the Texas Republican primary, 94 percent of voters approved a non-binding

PRAY ▶ *page 2*

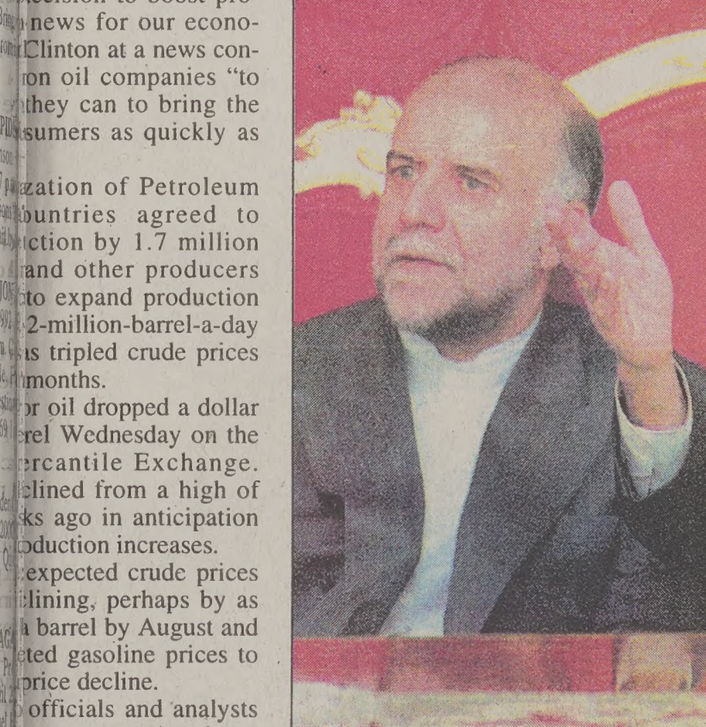

Photo Courtesy of Rosalin Institute

rld's first mammal cloned from an adult cell, and her , enjoy hay at Scotland's Roslin Institute. The institute es this year with the successful cloning of five piglets.

Cloning expert to talk today

By KRISTEN BUSH
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NewsNet Staff Writer

A man involved with the cloning of Dolly the sheep at Scotland's Roslin Institute will speak to students today in the W.W. Clyde Engineering Building..

Professor Grahame Bulfield, a chief executive director involved in the sheep-cloning project, will discuss cloning at 4 p.m. in 377 CB. All students are invited to attend.

Besides the widely publicized Dolly cloning project in 1995, the Roslin Institute recently cloned five pigs.

Kim O'Neill, professor of microbiology at BYU, said that although the cloning of Dolly became a sensitive issue with many ethical implications, its success was a major breakthrough for science.

"In the molecular biology field today, the cloning of Dolly is recognized as a major scientific achievement," he said.

O'Neill said it is a great honor to have Bulfield speak to students about cloning.

"Sometimes it takes a little while for major discoveries to be accepted by the general population," he said, adding that he thinks the overall reaction to cloning is favorable, although some are still skeptical.

"We are not creating a physical monster," he said.

According to O'Neill, people often misunderstand the purpose of cloning Dolly and other animals. They think that it was done in an effort to eventually clone humans.

He said Dolly was cloned to show that DNA in fully differentiated cells has not undergone substantial change and still contains the potential to produce an individual.

Enass Tinah, 25, a graduate student from Jerusalem majoring in molecular biology, said there are still problems with the cloning technique. She said some of these problems are evidenced by the fact that Dolly is not maturing normally.

Tinah said the methods of cloning are not perfect, but they help to understand what goes on in the cell.

O'Neill said that despite its problems, cloning is a way to help organisms fulfill their potential.

"To clone somebody would be unethical, but if we can use the technique to clone organs, that would be OK," Tinah said.

O'Neill said many wonder whether a cloned human would have a spirit.

"It's important where the physical body comes from," O'Neill said. "But it's more important what happens to the soul."

Amanda Forson, 19, a sophomore from Annandale, Va., majoring in family history and genealogy, wrote a research paper on cloning last year and does not agree with the idea of cloning humans.

"I'm not afraid of the cloning itself, I care more about future possible genetic discrimination," she said.

"I think it's playing God," Forson said.

"If there aren't any idiosyncrasies left, what kind of population are we going to have? Excellence won't exist anymore."

O'Neill said he does not know what possibilities exist as far as cloning humans.

"God may not let us do it," he said.

amendment fails, gains popularity

LIE HOWARD
ewsroom.byu.edu
Net Staff Writer

onal amendment that en Congress the power American flag failed by ednesday in the U.S.

urth vote on a similar the Senate since 1989. ch, R-Utah, who spon- amendment, said vote of 63-37 reflects itment to flag protection ie Senate.

Senators voted for the n 1990 there were 58 In 1995, 63 Senators mendment," Hatch said. p fighting for the flag til it passes the Senate te two-thirds vote."

he bill is inevitable, cause the flag amend- e will of the people.

ment passed it would to the states to ratify. sday's vote, 49 states ions to Congress asking tion amendment.

Acts of flag desecration from media reports

1995 – 44
1996 – 115
1997 – 53
1998 – 190
1999 – 10

graphic: Donald Allison
source: Citizens Flag Alliance

Although 48 states and the District of Columbia had prohibited flag desecration, a 1989 Supreme Court decision declared acts such as flag burning are protected by the First Amendment.

The ruling nullified Utah's flag abuse statute, which classified flag desecration as an offense against public order and decency. Under the law, flag abuse was punishable by up to six months in prison.

Last year, two adults and a juvenile who burned a flag in Price, Carbon County, were charged with improper burning.

Conference soars into cyberspace

BY TRISHA BARKER
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NewsNet Web Editor

A group of BYU students won't be watching general conference this weekend — they opted to work instead.

While millions of members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will gather to watch or listen to conference in homes, chapels and stake centers throughout the world, a team of seven NewsNet employees will be scrambling around the fifth floor of the Wilkinson Student Center, taking part in one of NewsNet's biggest projects of the year.

The NewsNet team — computer programmers and four Web editors — will broadcast from NewsNet's Web site, www.newsnet.byu.edu, streaming video of the four general sessions of conference in Spanish and Portuguese, as well as streaming audio in six other languages.

NewsNet is the only news organization offering video streaming in languages other than English. In fact, none of the sessions broadcast by NewsNet via the Internet are in English.

"With the high availability of the English broadcast, we decided to allocate our resources to languages that are harder to get on the Internet," said Michael Buhrley, NewsNet Web Director.

Although NewsNet will not be broadcasting in English, it will still add English video clips to detailed summaries of every conference talk, since that is one of the most popular features used on the site.

The NewsNet Web editors will also post in-depth stories about related conference events, including the debut of the church's new Conference Center.

Beginning Friday evening, visitors to the Web site can even take a virtual photo tour of the Conference Center.

"We're really excited about the virtual tour because it's something unique to this conference only," said Jeni Deery, NewsNet special sections editor.

"People can access the pictures from all over the world, so if they can't come, I think they'll feel more like they're a part of the historic event."

Although it may be an exhausting weekend for the team, Buhrley said NewsNet is excited about using technology for such a worthy cause.

"It's not really a sacrifice for us at all," he said. "Some of the most powerful experiences I've had in my life have been while working with conference and bringing it to people who have never had an opportunity to see or hear it live."

Some of the students involved with the project will be able to watch parts of conference, although it may not be in a language they understand. One editor reported having to watch October's conference in Samoan and Hmong,

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General Conference Language Availability

NewsNet video and audio:
- Spanish
- Portuguese

NewsNet audio only
- Spanish
- Portuguese
- Japanese
- Samoan
- Navajo
- French
- German
- Mandarin

English video clips will be attached to the text summaries.

other languages can be found at:
Campus Cable: Cantonese, English, Hmong, Tongan, Cambodian, Korean
KSL: English
LDS World: Haitian, Tongan, Laotian, Cantonese, Cambodian, Vietnamese, Korean, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, Italian, Norwegian

News Briefs

Compiled from staff and news service reports

Salt Lake light rail train kills woman

SOUTH SALT LAKE — A woman rushing across the tracks to catch a commuter train was struck and killed Wednesday morning.

Witnesses told police the woman had parked her car in a lot adjacent to the 3900 South station and was hurrying to reach the center platform when the accident occurred.

The two-car, downtown-bound train was pulling into the station when the woman was killed. Her body, severed in two, remained under the train while police investigated.

South Salt Lake police said no one else was hurt in the accident. The train stopped suddenly.

The victim's name was not immediately available. Police were working to notify her family.

Light rail service was temporary halted, but trains were rerouted.

McDonald's found in violation of law

SALT LAKE CITY — A McDonald's manager who fired three black teenagers after one of them was accused of giving free food to his friends violated federal anti-discrimination laws, the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission said.

According to the EEOC's findings late last month, the manager of the store in the Crossroads Mall in downtown Salt Lake City received a tip from a customer that one of her black employees was giving away food.

When none of the three black employees on the shift confessed, she fired them all.

The commission investigated the December 1998 incident after at least one of the teen-agers filed a discrimination complaint with the EEOC, The Salt Lake Tribune reported.

"In effect, the manager terminated the black employees because they were black," said Charles Burtner, director of the EEOC's Phoenix District Office.

Ugandan cult's death toll tops 700

RUGAZI, Uganda — The death count linked to a Christian doomsday sect climbed ever higher Wednesday — to nearly 700 — in what officials say is one of the largest mass murders in recent history.

The latest collection of twisted, decaying bodies was uncovered in the plain gray fieldstone house of Dominic Kataribabo, an excommunicated Roman Catholic priest and a sect leader.

By mid-afternoon, the workers' two-day task was complete: 81 mostly naked bodies of nameless people were pulled from the brown earth beneath the floor of a 10-by-10 foot room in Kataribabo's home, examined briefly and reburied. Earlier this week, 74 mutilated and strangled bodies, many of them children, were unearthed from a mass grave in a small sugarcane field in Kataribabo's backyard.

Volcano threatens Japanese villages

TOKYO — Authorities in northern Japan evacuated thousands of residents and wheeled patients from hospitals Wednesday after scientists warned the Mount Usu volcano could erupt within the next two days.

More than 8,000 people from three towns were evacuated as increasingly powerful tremors shook snow-covered Mount Usu, an active volcano on Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido that last erupted in 1978.

The sudden buildup in seismic activity prompted experts to warn late Wednesday that the 2,416-foot volcano may erupt at any time.

A 4.2 magnitude quake jolted Mount Usu Wednesday evening. It was the most intense of the nearly 2,000 tremors that have been recorded in the area over the last three days.

Worried that an eruption would melt snow on the volcano's flanks and cause mudslides, authorities ordered the evacuation of 3,832 homes in the towns of Date, Sobetsu and Abuta, hot-spring resorts with a combined population of 51,300.

Weather

Yesterday		Today	Friday
High	57 as of	Sunny	Sunny
Low	34 5 p.m.	High 47	High 60
Precipitation		Low 30	Low 39
Yesterday	0"		
Month to date	1.53"		
Year to date	7.01"		

sources: BYU Geography Dept., CNN

The Daily Universe

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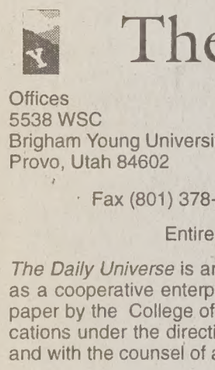
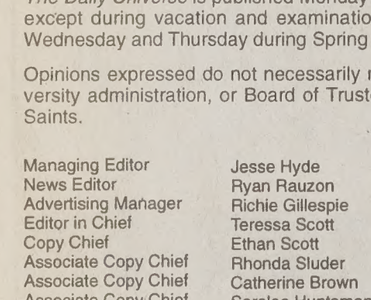
Scripture of the Day



"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

— *Proverbs 3:5*



Casie Taylor likes this scripture because, "it just lets me know that everything will be okay if I put my trust in Him." Taylor, 19, is a freshman from Midland, Texas, majoring in civil engineering.

CONF *from page 1*

although she is fluent in only Spanish and English.

"Even though the students may not understand the languages they are monitoring, they'll look back on the weekend and all the time they spent, and they'll realize they did something of great worth, " Buhrley said.

NewsNet's Managing Director John Gholdston said it is the "tear-stained e-mails" that NewsNet receives from people around the world that make the project worth it. He cited an e-mail from a Spanish man living in Austria as an example.

"Conference is not available by TV or radio in Austria," wrote Heber Ferraz-Leite, 31, of Vienna, after watching all four sessions of conference online last October. "Sessions at our stake center are available in German or English. With us being foreigners in Austria, and Spanish being our language, the Internet was the only means by which we could listen."

Ferraz-Leite said having the words of the prophet in his home gave his family the feeling that they were seeing a prophecy, and that the spirit was stronger there than it might have been in other places.

Denise McArthur, 52, whose husband is a LDS mission president in Fukuoka, Japan, said there is no other way besides the Internet to get conference in Japan.

"The only way people here get conference is by video tape a month or two later," McArthur said. "And then they only see what gets shown in church a couple of times. We spread the word to all we could find to watch or listen on the Internet. (Last October) was the first time that most of the people had heard conference live."

Although NewsNet has been netcasting general conference since 1997, Buhrley said the coverage has improved every year.

"We are able to send conference to more people than in the past, and more languages have become available to us," he said. "Because NewsNet has become so popular at conference time, we look forward to it, and there's a lot of preparation that goes into it."

Buhrley said the site usually receives four times more traffic over conference weekend than it normally does in a month.

The high traffic and restrictions posed by limited server space means that only a few thousand people can use the services at the same time, Burhley said.

"On the site we say that the streaming versions are there for those who don't have a stake center in the vicinity or who don't have it carried on their cable system," Buhrley explained. "We want the people who have no other method of getting it to be able to take advantage of what the Internet offers."

NewsNet will provide links to other pages for sessions of conference it is not covering. Other sites that will offer conference coverage include LDSWorld.com, DeseretNews.com and KSL.com.

OIL *from page 1*

sumers. Refiners are still using the more expensive oil.

"It's going to be hard to get an immediate assessment of how successful this is going to be," said Red Cavaney, president of the American Petroleum Institute. He said refiners are "ramping up" gasoline production, but he acknowledged that current inventories are at the expected lower end of the range.

"We've had record (gasoline) production in February and we're operating at good clip here in March," said Cavaney. But the full price impact probably will not be felt until gasoline from the lower price crude oil moves into the retail market, he said.

Airlines boosted ticket prices during the winter by as much as $40 because of the soaring price of jet fuel. So far, no one has moved to roll back the ticket prices, because they are waiting to see what happens to jet fuel prices.

At the same time, industry experts are uncertain about exactly how much additional oil will be put into the market because OPEC producers have been exceeding their official quotas by as much as 1.2 million barrels a day for some time. That would mean the 10-core OPEC countries decision reached late Tuesday would only make available an additional 500,000 barrels a day, analysts said.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said Wednesday the OPEC production agreement will produce "a stable price" for crude, benefiting both producers and consumers. He predicted "gradual and modest declines" in gasoline and diesel prices. Earlier, he and other administration officials said wholesale gasoline prices could drop as much as 15 cents by July.

This week, the Energy Information Administration said average gasoline prices nationwide had dipped 2 cents from their peak to $1.55 a gallon for all grades during the past week.

The private Lundberg Survey showed a $1.59 average price per gallon at 10,000 service stations it moni-

PRAY *fr*

resolution backing sti prayer at school sportin Gov. George W. Bush Republican presidentia a brief supporting stude

The Supreme Court, jo ignores public sentim its role as the ultimate a tutional disputes.

Washington lawyer defending the Texas s policy, argued that it i that does not involv speech. The only issue majority vote is who said. "The student is th here," he said.

Texas Attorney Gene also urged the justices policy and avoid "view nation" against those messages to be prayers.

Asked by O'Connor dent-led prayers in cla begin each school day, Football games are di "this is an extracurric said.

Anthony Griffin, a G lawyer representing th lenged the policy, sai football games "are just of these schools" as a h "They're part of the sch said.

The Santa Fe Indep District's policy was 1995 by four students ents. Their lawsuit als school district's policy dents lead prayers at g monies.

Santa Fe, a commu 10,000 residents about east of Houston, has s sions created by the pray

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ociated Press

ORTH, Texas — ews sent huge dan- of glass crashing to it from Fort Worth's Wednesday as res- ed for more victims that ripped through ng at least three peo-

feel there may be ms trapped in the Chief Larry McMil-

ple were killed, one and presumed dead, 30 were injured and left homeless as two sted windows out of ffices and tore homes y after the evening esday.

er stripped the brick athedral tower as two ed inside.

like a battlefield and ught us miraculously said the Rev. Bob e surveyed the dam- ry Cathedral Interna-

000 people were left er at the height of the 2,000 still without afternoon, said TXU vices spokeswoman

n Forth Worth, a city bout 30 miles west of sealed off as crews pound panes of glass d from 35 floors up.

ent floor by floor in office buildings for a t the damage.

l have one building lmost unscathed, and to that you have a t looks like it's down- ," Lt. Gov. Rick Perry

h for bodies was cen- en demolished build- of downtown Fort fillan said.

ple were crushed to by a falling wall and y a truck trailer that him. Two others in a vept into the Trinity Arlington to the east. as recovered, and res- ed for the other vic-

do that hit Arlington about two miles long blocks wide, destroy- ses, officials said. It ld down in the Grand about 10 miles to the ying at least eight damaging six.

l devastation every- ook," Mike Anderson, n Army spokesman, Arlington neighbor- stly two-story houses 200,000.

idents spent the night 's in their driveways leaving their damaged

orge W. Bush, cam- New Jersey, declared unty a disaster area.

Bolivian temple to be dedicated

By JOE HOLLENBAUGH
hollenbaugh@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

In a land known for its ancient Incan temples, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is preparing to open its own temple that will reflect the ancient culture.

The Cochabamba Bolivia Temple, scheduled for dedication April 30, combines a typical LDS temple floor plan with an exterior design that echoes Incan architecture.

Located on a hillside, several flights of steps are incorporated into the temple design, which is built in a style reminiscent of the terraced ancient Incan cities in Bolivia and Peru.

The 33,000-square-foot temple, built to accommodate 80,000 LDS Church members in 21 stakes, underscores the progress of the LDS Church in that region.

In addition to the Bolivia temple, the LDS Church also announced that the dedication date for the Reno Nevada Temple is April 23.

The dedications are part of a recent flurry of new temple openings. Eight new temples have already opened this year, and another 12 are scheduled before the end of May.

When all the scheduled temples are open, the LDS Church will have 88 temples in operation, only 12 shy of its goal of 100 temples in operation by 2000, as stated by LDS Church President Gordon B. Hinckley at the October 1998 General Conference.

The Palmyra, N.Y. dedication is scheduled for April 6. It will coincide with the 170th anniversary of the founding of the LDS Church, and will be broadcast to LDS Church stake centers across North America, creating the largest dedication audience in history.

Three temples in the South Pacific will be dedicated in May, LDS Church representative Kim Farah said.

Two more temples in Mexico will also be dedicated in May, in the cities of Tampico and Villahermosa, Tabasco.

In addition, Tennessee will get its first and second temples this spring, with dedications in Memphis April 23 and Nashville May 21, Farah said.

Elian case may turn voters to Bush

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — In a close presidential race, the Cuban-American vote could be critical in Florida, where the fate of 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez has angry Miami-area voters saying they will unite behind Republican George W. Bush.

Most of the 780,000 Cuban-Americans who live in the area are furious at the Clinton administration for ordering the youngster's return to Cuba. And the political fallout could be devastating for Democrat Al Gore as President Clinton's vice president, whatever his own views on the Gonzalez case.

"My position has always been that this is a custody matter for the courts to decide based on due process, with a full hearing in which all parties are heard," Gore said last week.

Bush's stance: "This case should be decided by a Florida family court, which will protect the best interests of Elian, not by a Clinton-Gore Justice Department whose record of putting politics ahead of the law does not inspire confidence."

Florida generally votes Republican in the presidential election, but Clinton won it in a three-way race in 1996, gaining 40 percent of the Cuban-American vote — unprecedented for a Democrat. That result, coupled with Gore's strength among senior citizens, had given the vice president hope for 2000 in the state with the fourth-most electoral votes.

For Gore, the political tightrope he must navigate stretches well beyond Florida's Cuban-American community. Each of the 16 members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in Washington has telephoned the White House to weigh in — from all sides — on the Elian Gonzalez question.

"There have been two key events that made Cubans Republicans," said Dario Moreno, a political science professor at Florida International University in Miami. "There was the Bay of Pigs and the 1978 dialogue between the Carter administration and Cuba.

"Elian Gonzalez has the potential to be the third," Moreno said.

The boy was found clinging to an inner tube off the coast of Florida on Nov. 25.

His mother and 10 other people drowned when their boat capsized during an attempt to reach the United States.

The boy's father in Cuba has asked for his return. Cuban President Fidel Castro has made it a major issue.

Study reports diabetes linked to Agent Orange

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An Air Force study released Wednesday confirmed a connection, long suspected by Vietnam veterans, between wartime exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange and diabetes.

The Air Force said the link so far is only statistical and is yet to be proven conclusively by biological study.

The National Academy of Sciences, a research arm of the government, is reviewing the results and is to report to the Department of Veterans Affairs, which will decide possible compensation to veterans.

The study found a 47 percent increase in diabetes among veterans with the highest levels of dioxin in their bloodstream. Dioxin is the compound in Agent Orange linked to health effects in laboratory animals. The result is based on 1997 physical examinations of 1,000 Air Force veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange during the nine years that it was used as a defoliant and crop killer in Vietnam.

Joel Michalek, the lead investigator in the study, told a Pentagon news conference that because studies have not yet explained a biological relation between dioxin and diabetes, the Air Force cannot conclusively say that wartime exposure to Agent Orange is a cause of diabetes.

Still, he said, the latest results provide "the strongest evidence to date" that herbicide exposure is associated with diabetes. He said the Air Force knew as far back as 1991 of a statistical link between dioxin and diabetes and has since bolstered its data based on additional physical exams of veterans.

The Air Force is financing research at two academic institutions on a biological link between dioxin and diabetes. In its report, the Air Force said it also found a 26 percent increase in heart disease.

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• Doctors of Optometry on Duty
• Special discounts available
• Large assortment of frames
• Most RX's done within the hour : Special orders OK
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"Mountain High Quality at Valley Low Prices"
Free Trial Pair
Acuvue or Acuvue²
Contact lenses with every Contact Lens examination.*
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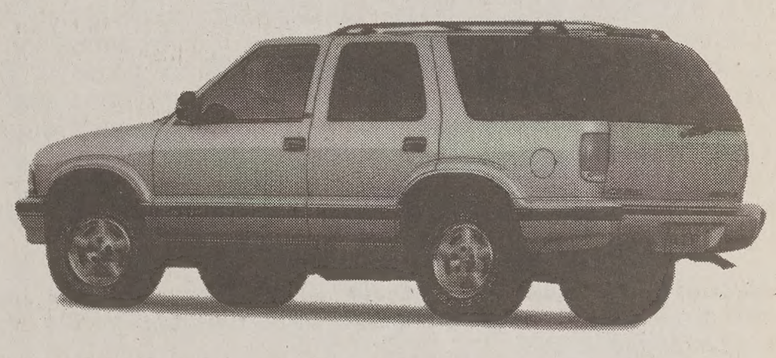

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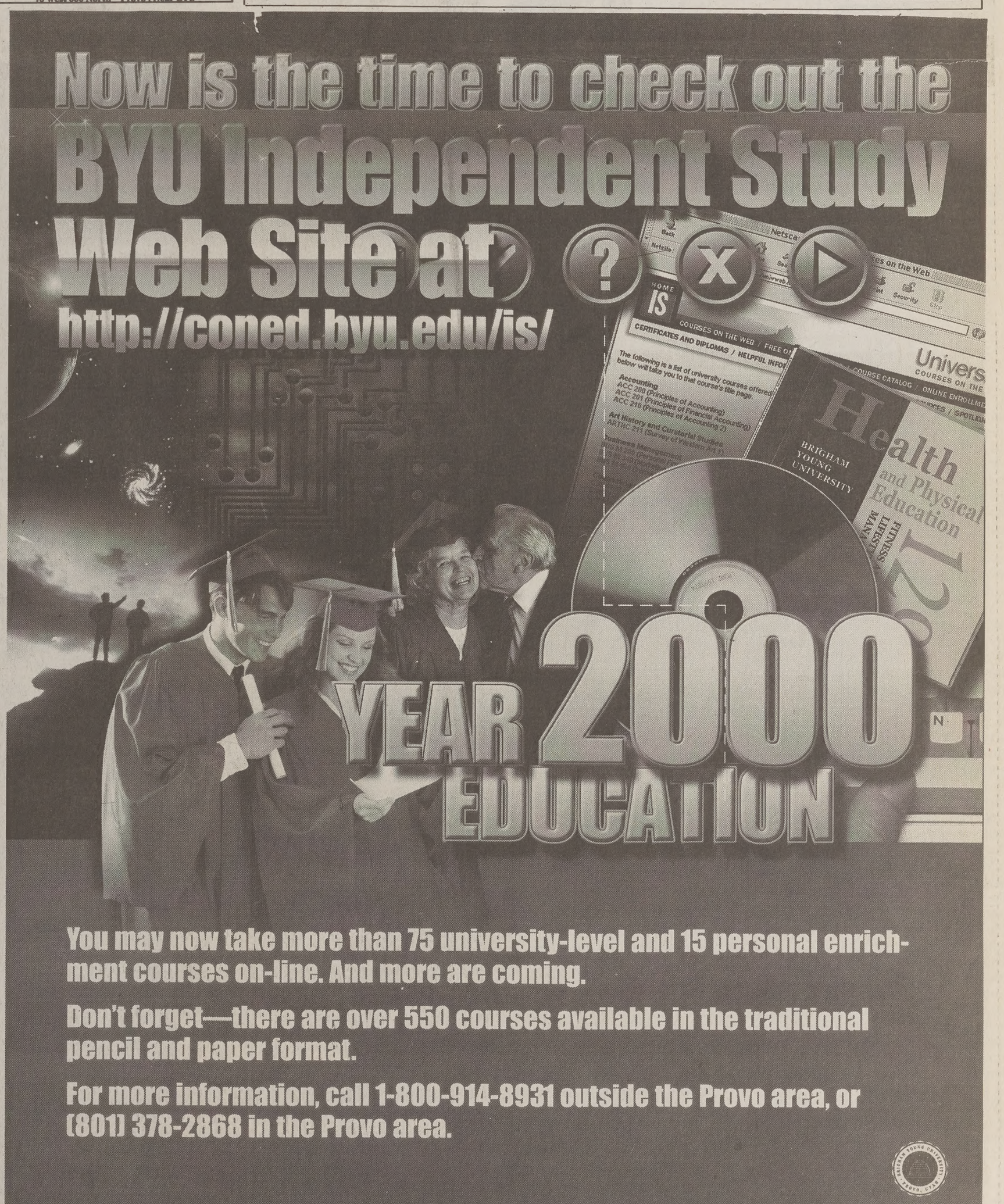
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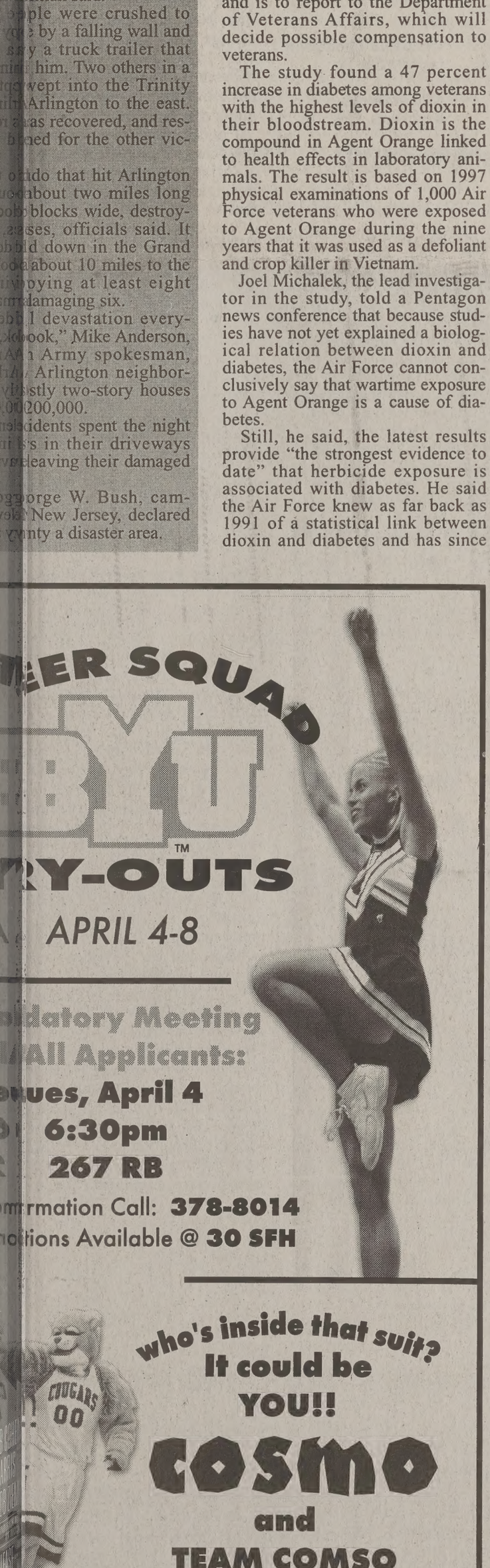


The Daily Universe
OPINION

ID system slow to change

Students Social Security numbers can be found on class rolls and test score sheets and ID cards. And last year, BYU accidentally mailed a bunch of them to an ad company which in turn printed them on mailing labels. The casualness with which these crucial identifiers are handled at BYU is a problem. The administration recognizes the risks. Though an intricate system may take a while to implement, there is no excuse for Social Security numbers to still be used so indispensably at this high-tech and morally-minded university.

Following an incident in 1998 when a University of Utah student hacked into the school's computer system and downloaded the Social Security numbers of about 23,000 students, faculty and staff, the University of Utah acted quickly and responsibly to the potential risks that using a student's social security number as his or her ID number can produce. The University of Utah has implemented a new ID number system to protect its students, faculty and staff. Two years later, BYU administrators still say they are working on it.

As technological innovations increase, so does the ease and probability of identity theft. Nationally, Social Security numbers are used for such things as credit card applications, loan applications and insurance numbers. At BYU, Social Security numbers are used for such things as registration, financial aid and passwords to access other personal information.

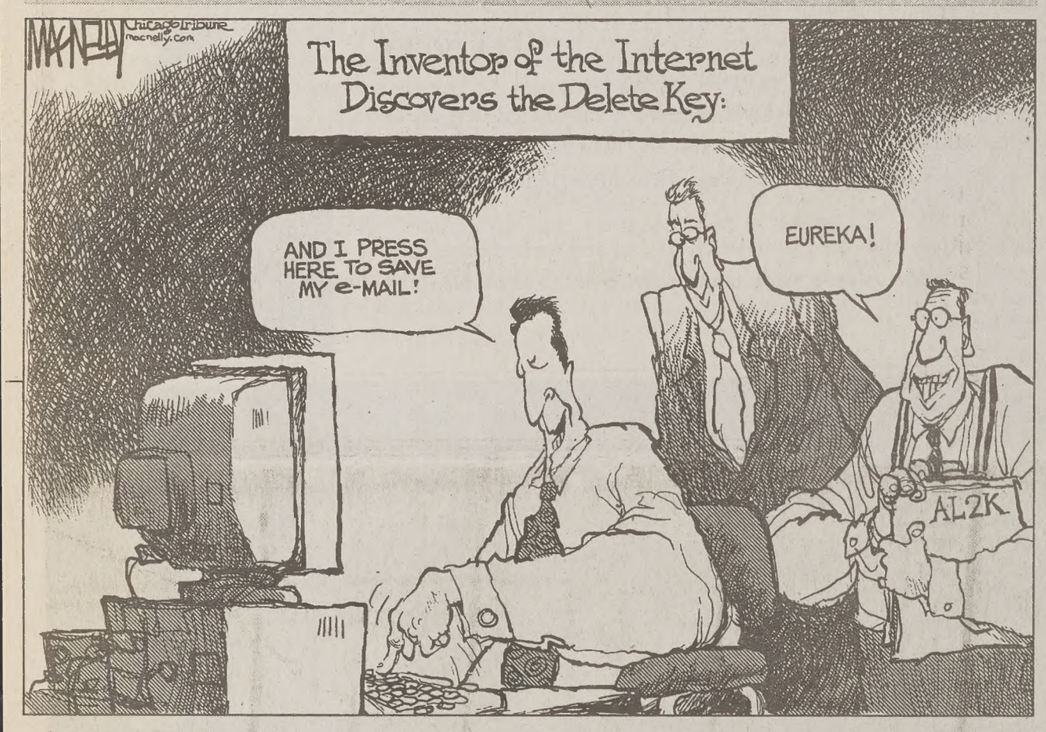
But the system is not the only problem. Students also have become too casual with their social security numbers, reciting them over the phone to BYU employees who need their numbers to access information. Some students even send letters to the Readers' Forum with their social security number typed at the bottom. Because ID numbers are highly relied upon, these measures are not thought twice about — but should be.

An article in The Daily Universe on Wednesday cited an incident where a student, without even trying, stumbled across an access to other students' information through AIM. It took Information Technology Services three weeks to remedy the problem. Last Thursday's article on identity theft risks at BYU quoted the administration saying that identity theft is "not likely."

The casualness with which Social Security numbers, people's main identifiers, are handled at BYU makes identity theft highly likely. The numbers can get in the hands of almost anyone who wants to find them, whether it be by going through university garbage cans, impersonating a university employee on the phone, or stealing almost any letter mailed to a BYU student from the university. Privacy of personal information can make a difference when one's credit can be scarred, one's information can be altered and one's identity can be stolen and assumed by someone else.

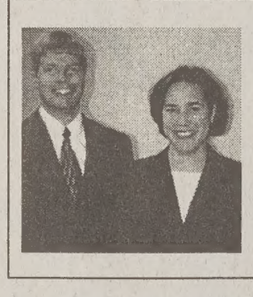
With the great minds and technological advances at BYU, these risks should have been identified long ago and remedied. Thinking that identity theft won't happen at BYU can be a dangerous to its students, faculty, and staff.

This editorial is the opinion of The Daily Universe Editorial Board. Daily Universe opinions are not necessarily opinions of BYU, its administrators or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Viewpoint

BYUSA officers report on their term



By Eric Perry and Sharon Varga

BYUSA president and vice president

When we were elected into office we made some pledges of issues we planned to work on to make this school and this year better for students. Now, as the semester draws to an end, we would like to use our last two columns to report on our progress in these areas. In most cases we have been successful with what we set out to accomplish; in a couple of instances we have come close but more work is needed. We leave a report of our stewardship with BYUSA and with BYU to you for your consideration.

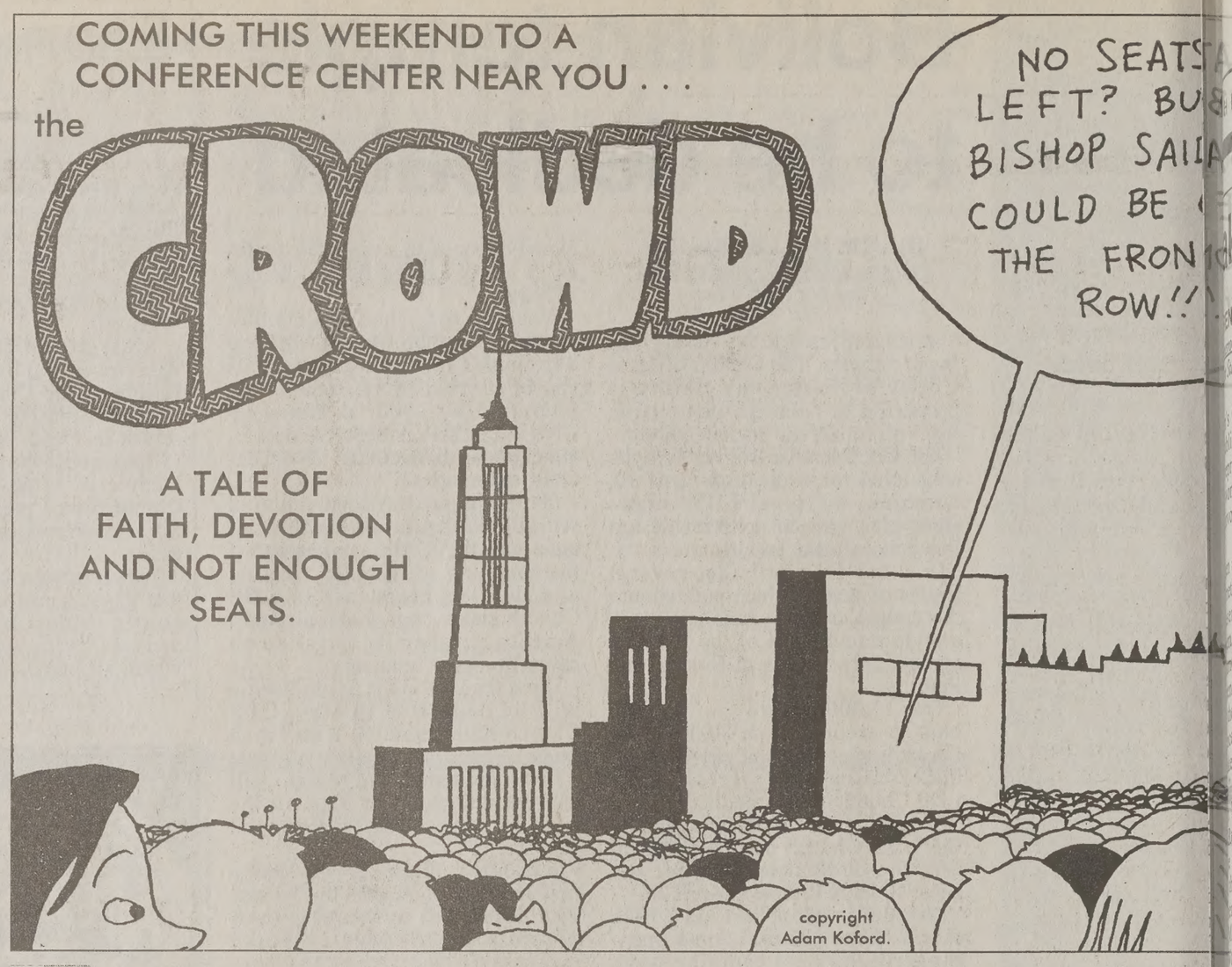
We pledged ourselves to re-establish the Wilkinson Student Center as the campus living room. Through cooperation with the WSC Business Office, we have been able to move firmly in that direction. With their help, we have arranged to provide more couches and study areas, we have decided to place a new big-screen TV in one of the lounge areas and we have begun the process of incorporating more student art and decorative ideas into the building. Teaming up with other organizations, Club Varsity has come into existence. Club Varsity uses the Varsity Theatre to host bands, comedy groups and other performers for student enjoyment on Thursday nights. Another improvement has been the creation of the Student Works section of the BYU Bookstore. Before the semester's end, this area of the Bookstore will sell select student creative works to the public. Our hope is that the area will promote creative excellence in our fellow students and provide a forum to have talents recognized.

We promised to provide consistent, weekly previews of campus events such as fine arts, athletics and other student activities. This year we have used The Daily Universe to run the Student Life Activities Bulletin every Monday to give students a weekly preview of what entertainment BYU provides. In addition to the newspaper, preparations are being made to have the SLAB posted on the BYUSA Web site and sent via e-mail to interested subscribers. This summer, information centers will be constructed in two or three locations on campus to carry similar announcements, as well as provide a campus map and other academic and administrative information.

We committed ourselves to improving the UTA bus service to and from campus — especially for those apartment complexes further from campus. Working with UTA management and some BYU administrators we have helped review routes and suggest changes that will benefit the majority of BYU students. The new system will go into effect in August, and will offer students an efficient alternative to parking and traffic woes. The last piece of the puzzle is negotiation of a semester-based UTA rider pass that would give students access to all Utah County routes at a sharply discounted rate. We are in the midst of discussion with UTA sales and marketing, and plan to have such a pass available for students by August.

We pledged ourselves to connecting BYU students to CES Institutes and their students across the world via Web pages, e-mail and chat rooms. This initiative did not occur as we had planned it to. During a report to Elder Henry B. Eyring, commissioner of the Church Educational System, we were given the counsel not to establish such a connection until the LDS Church would orchestrate such a move. He recommended that BYUSA and other student groups post training and other information about such things as activity planning, service program development, leadership education and technology training on a Web site for use by LDS Institutes at their discretion. This has been done and we look forward to supporting both the church and the Institute program in the future.

If you have questions or comments, please direct them to either of us at issues@byu.edu.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Readers' Forum

Letters may be submitted at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by e-mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) or faxed to 378-

More than meets the eye

Dear Editor:

I am sick of hearing about how horrible beauty pageants are and how even hanging pictures of past BYU queens contradicts eternal standards. Last week's cartoon featuring a gaunt Miss America was the last straw. I am one of those beauty queens. I am proud to be Miss Lehi 1999-2000. Having opened myself to scrutiny, I have six points to make.

First, the Miss America Pageant is not a beauty pageant, it is a scholarship pageant. We don't compete to win cash prizes, modeling contracts, designer wardrobes or manicures.

Second, contestants must be intelligent. I doubt that there are many job interviews more vigorous than a local, state or national Miss America Pageant interview. Women must know current laws and events and have an opinion on all issues.

Third, the pageant exemplifies the eternal standards we all strive to uphold. Women are encouraged to express their opinions, to learn about current issues, to develop their talents, to be physically fit and to display confidence, poise, grace and beauty — inside and out.

Fourth, I must admit, I could do without the swimsuit portion of the pageant, but I do realize the importance of being physically fit. Miss America and Miss Utah are both strenuous jobs. Not once have I felt like my weight was an issue — even though according to my HEPE class I am 10 pounds above my ideal weight. Contestants are told to not indulge in foolish eating habits and hopefully the judges will recognize and reward a healthy figure over an unhealthy one.

Fifth, Miss Utah and Miss America personify service. The whole purpose of a queen's reign is to use her influence to promote her platform. An extensive service project is required to enter the pageant — lives are changed when these women get to work.

Last, if you despise pageants, do not watch them or participate in them. No one makes you do either of these and no one makes the women try out. They're aware of what they're getting in to (even that they'll be judged in a swimsuit).

I challenge The Daily Universe to discover former pageant winners or queens and feature them so that other students can recognize and support them. This would also deflate the negative stereotype and help others to see that they do exemplify LDS standards.

Jaclyn Hunt
Lehi

Keep affection indoors

Dear Editor:

As the weather warms, people tend to go outside to study, relax and enjoy themselves. Recently, I have noticed several couples out on lawns around campus who are enjoying themselves a little too much for my comfort.

I realize that with the onset of spring, love is in the air. But keep that love indoors, out of the view of innocent bystanders. As I come onto campus, I don't want to feel like I need to close my eyes as I walk around so I don't have to witness the R-rated activity occurring right in front of my eyes on the grass. I don't know if BYU has a co-ed wrestling team, but if it does, I'm sure they don't practice on the grass!

These displays of affection degrade the true love shared between two people. Please be considerate of others as you enjoy the beautiful weather and respect yourselves by not publishing your affections around campus.

Brooke Jones
Snowflake, Ariz.

What do you think?

Do you think the benefits outweigh the risks in DNA research and/or cloning, or is safety the best policy?

With the recent election of democratic leader Chen Shuibian in Taiwan, should Taiwan seek its independence, or should it remain a part of China?

Should burning or otherwise desecrating the American flag be protected as an expression of free speech, or should it be illegal?

Send a letter to the editor expressing your opinion.

Music variety needed

Dear Editor:

If the Harold B. Lee Library wants us to be going out at 11:45 each night, then why do they play "When The Saints Go Marching In?" After listening to this song night after night, it tends to rack on our nerves. We find ourselves fleeing the library well before 11:45 in order to escape the repetition of this song. We understand that the library wants us out by midnight, but we feel that there are more pleasant songs we could be hearing. All we are asking for is variety. This will compel students to study an extra 45 minutes until closing time to hear what the "song of the night" will be.

Aaron Johnson
Kingsburg, Calif.

Christina Thompson
Gainesville, Fla.

Rebecca Long
Oviedo, Fla.

Ann Waldron
Brookings, Ore.

NIT shafted BYU

Dear Editor:

I am writing to respond to last week's letter, "Bigger isn't better." The point of the "Let the 'Holy War' Begin" article was not that the Marriott Center is a better venue for a college basketball game than Notre Dame's arena, but that BYU was more deserving of a home game. All along, the NIT has said home games are based on attendance, but giving Notre Dame the home game before BYU even played was clearly a biased decision to help Notre Dame win the game and get a bigger TV audience for the finals in New York. BYU has a better record.

I don't care if the Marriott Center were 200 years old with stone seats, BYU deserved to host that third round game and that's all there is to it. Maybe the Marriott Center has been empty and quiet for several years, but the fans are coming back and would have been packed and loud for a match-up with Notre Dame.

The NIT wanted a Notre Dame win and they got it. I really believe BYU had a great shot of winning the game if it were at home.

Charlie Lythgoe
Abington, Mass.

Taco Bell blues

Dear Editor:

I recall the days of old when BYU's Taco Bell stood for something magnificent and refined. In those days, my trips to Provo were few. Coming occasionally to visit my brothers at BYU was always a treat, for I knew that the best Taco Bell in Utah awaited me at the Cougareat. When I returned from my trips to Provo, my friends from the neighborhood would gather around and listen to tales of tacos and burritos the size of houses.

I was disappointed the first time I purchased a burrito as a BYU student. No longer did my arm struggle against the weight as I devoured the food. I have stopped taking the extra time to eat at BYU's Taco Bell — the worldly Taco Bells are just as good, if not better. BYU's Taco Bell used to mean something. Latter-day Saints could be proud of their Taco Bell.

I long for the times of yesteryear. I dream of chalupas and nachos with so many toppings I can't even finish them. Help me realize my dreams and return BYU's Taco Bell to its glory days.

Danny Lassen
Sandy

A win-win situ

Dear Editor:

Why kick students out o ments? Why force homeown value of their property? Th back to a surge of assumptio some residents around BYU blame for neighborhood ill Now they want to pass a la absentee landlords from rentin a home, a move that would el al student apartments.

There is no evidence suppor that neighborhoods are wor home is used for two rental u one. Not only does the pro change hurt those students an with losses easily reaching thousands of dollars — it also ple who support the change, know it or not.

It is disturbing that advocat ing change are unwilling to c allowing the usual grandfathe ing apartments. It is especia that so many residents that a of the change to evict BYU BYU professors. If it is about and yards, then why not ad and use neighborhood counc age compliance by both stude lies? Probably because it is al gun down a scapegoat and blood than it is to employ t tools of neighborly cooperatio

Win-win solutions are pos voice your opposition to th amendment at the Provo City ing on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Kenneth Turley
Idaho Falls

Team rose from th

Dear Editor:

I want everyone to take a mi on the recently concluded C ball season. So we lost to N South Bend with only one day' cares? These Cougar hoopste congratulated for bringing th program back to prosperity. land inherited a team with onl in the previous season and bro victories in only his third ye about it. We beat Utah for the 12 games, and we also beat per contenders UNLV (twice) and Any one of the almost 17,000 nessed our second-round NIT no doubt agree with me, Coug is back, and the fans have c support a fun, exciting team.

Who says the Marriott Center place to play? I would hate to ing team and have to play in fi sands of rowdy Cougar fans Marriott Center is even close t is one of the better home-cour in the nation. I want to thank players and fans for bringing ketball back to the degree of ex competitiveness we all expect sports. Here's looking forwar incredible year in the Marriott

Ryan Ainge
Glendale, Calif.

Readers' Forum Guidelines

BYU NewsNet invites students, professors and BYU staff to ters to the editor. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All lett be typed and are not to exceed 300 words.

Name, home town and phone number must accompany all le letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters mus mitted in person at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by letters@du2.byu.edu (no attachments) or faxed to 378-2959. E opinion editor, can be reached at 378-2957.

Campus Editor: Angie Bergstrom
phone: 378-7095
e-mail: angie@du2.byu.edu

eakers: Politics needs women

AREN GUTKE
@newsroom.byu.edu
sNet Staff Writer

nen's Caucus of the epublicans and Utah t representatives are g women students at t involved with poli-

omen are afraid to get something," said Utah presentative Tammy Orem. "They seem to e same amount of con- t men have in politics. ike they need to have a erience behind them to make a difference, but rue."

Rep. Becky Lockhart, nd Republican Nation- ttee Member Arlene ed their experiences omen's caucus, taking of March's designation l Women's Month to BYU women to get olved in the world m.

Ransom, Utah State for College Republi- the time is perfect for start taking on a greater rnment.

ion has its arms open omen to get involved," aid. "Jump in. Do the . Don't be afraid."

now make up 21 per- U.S. Cabinet and 22 f the U.S. Supreme teen percent of all fed- s, 8 percent of state , 19 percent of state 3 percent of state rep- es and 20 percent of ayors are also women.

students at BYU also chool leadership posi-

Varga, executive vice of BYUSA, said she presenting the student plans to use her talents r community after she J.

that it is super impor- vomen all over to be with their community. get involved it gives them a chance to give their unique contributions wherever they see fit," Varga said.

Other women students, like Diana McArthur, president of the College Republicans' Women's Caucus, are heavily involved with student political clubs on campus. McArthur said she wants to run for political office in the future.

She also hopes to see more female students get involved with politics on campus.

"If we want to change the way our country is being run, then we need to take personal responsibility and change it ourselves," McArthur said. "This is our country and we cannot leave it to men to dictate how it is run."

Utah women have been jumping into politics ever since Utah became a state.

Martha Hughes Cannon, the nation's first female state senator, was elected in Utah in 1896, the year Utah was granted statehood.

According to an essay entitled "Gentle Persuaders; Utah's First Women Legislators," by Jean White, Cannon, who was an avid supporter of the women's suffrage movement and won her senate seat over her husband, was a trained doctor and operated the state's first training school for nurses.

Prison camp survivor tells his story

By CARRIE LUNDGREN
Lundgren@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

A former Gestapo camp prisoner spoke to the BYU German Society on Tuesday night, saying that although he was tortured for telling the truth about the Nazis, he would do it all over again.

Karl-Heinz Schnibbe, an Orem resident originally from Germany, will be honored this spring with the Righteous Among Gentiles award, an award previously given to Oscar Schindler, said Alan Keele, a BYU professor of German language and literature.

Schnibbe, along with two other Latter-day Saint boys, Helmuth Huebener and Rudy Wobbe, became preoccupied with a desire to tell the truth to their fellow Germans, he said.

These three teen-agers learned about Nazi persecutions from BBC broadcasts they heard from an illegal radio Huebener kept and placed flyers containing the truth throughout their town, Schnibbe said.

Schnibbe said his conscience became irreversibly awakened after witnessing Jewish stores ransacked and destroyed. Their merchandise was thrown into street gutters, Schnibbe said.

"I had to witness it. I didn't want to. It was so upsetting to me that I started crying when telling my mother about what I witnessed," Schnibbe said.

Schnibbe said he and his two friends made a pact that the first to be caught would take all the blame.

However, all three young men were caught and sent to prison camps, he said. In the Gestapo prison, Schnibbe said, he unexpectedly passed Huebener, the first to be arrested.

"I saw a small smile on his face and I knew that he kept our promise," Schnibbe said.

Because Huebener was credited with most of the blame, he was sentenced to death. Schnibbe and Wobbe were both sentenced to prison terms.

Although he spent three years in a Gestapo prison and four years in a Soviet labor camp, Schnibbe said he forgave his torturers in order to heal.

Spring Term to begin, end one day early

NewsNet Services

Spring term 2000 classes will begin April 25, one day earlier than previous terms, said Ron Bybee of the Admissions and Records Department.

Spring term will also end one day earlier, Bybee said.

Bybee said the term will begin earlier than in the past to create more time between the spring and summer terms, which will allow new students to move into their housing and become oriented to BYU campus before school starts.

About 750 to 800 new freshmen are expected to begin school summer term, so both the housing office and advisement center requested an extra day to facilitate their entrance to BYU, Bybee said. The academic vice presidents approved the decision to begin spring term earlier this year, he said.

A mass e-mail was sent to all BYU students Monday informing them of this change, Bybee said.

Most students who attend spring terms are continuing students from winter semesters, Bybee said. These students will not need the orientation time those attending summer will require, he said.

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Tech office hires full-time liaison

By KIMBERLY DEMUCHA
demucha@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Students no longer need to wait to have their technology-related questions answered.

According to Brad Stone, director of BYU's information technology customer relations, the Office of Information Technology has appointed its first student service representative, Jim Sands.

"We know that students are a great source for good ideas and valuable critique," Stone said. "We asked Jim Sands to be our full-time student liaison so they will have a specific person to talk to about concerns with campus technology and ideas for how to improve it."

As the Office of Information Technology's student service representative, Sands is responsible for listening to student suggestions and ensuring that their voices are heard as the office maintains and expands BYU's technology infrastructure.

"Technology affects every student on this campus, and they are our primary concern. Suggestions from students have already helped in issues about registration and Route Y," Stone said. "Jim's new position will be an even bigger step toward more student feedback."

According to a news release from the Office of Information Technology, Sand's job encompasses three main responsibilities. First and foremost among his objectives is establishing a working relationship with the student body.

"I would like students to know that they can contact me directly with their concerns and suggestions," Sands said. "With any kind of problem, people get frustrated when they can't find someone who will listen to them and take steps to correct it."

Sands said his second objective is to inform students about the Office of Information Technology's services.

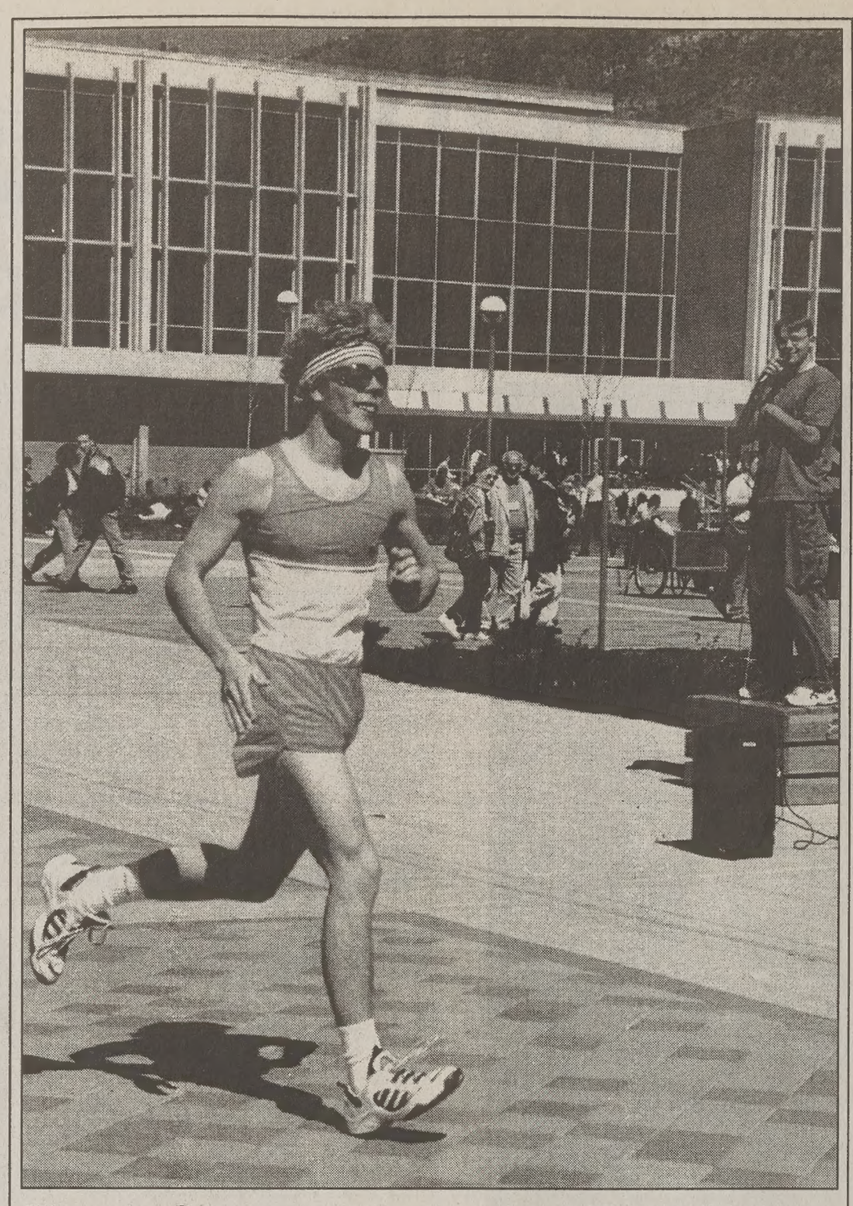
"I don't think most students know everything we do on campus and how we can help them during their years at BYU," he said.

Sands' third goal is to understand BYU's technology from a student's perspective so he can determine if their needs are being met. To do this, Sands said he plans to continually meet with student life officials, members of Student Auxiliary Services, as well as employees from other departments and individual students.

"I've learned a lot about how our services are helping students with schoolwork and how they could be improved," Sands said. "Features in the Route Y Post Office have been a big issue for students who have contacted me, and I am happy to say that these concerns are being addressed."

Sands said his most important goal, however, is to connect with students so they don't have to deal with the apprehension commonly associated with technological difficulties.

Sands can be reached at his personal extension, 378-6907, and by e-mail at it-feedback@email.byu.edu.



Track Queen

Jack R Peterson/Daily Universe

A BYU student runs past the Soapbox stand donning women's track apparel Wednesday afternoon. Watch out women's track stars, there may be impostors among you.

Symposium to look at Western lit.

By EMILY CANNON
Emily@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Scholars of Western American studies will gather to discuss the importance of faith and Christian values in Western U.S. literature this week at the Provo Marriott Hotel and BYU.

A symposium titled "Spiritual Frontiers 2000: Belief and Values in the Literary West" will be Thursday through Saturday and will feature presentations from national scholars.

Richard H. Cracroft, director of BYU's Center for the Study of Christian Values in Literature and editor of "Literature and Belief," said the purpose of the symposium is to look through spectacles of faith and see what has occurred in the literature of the West.

"This symposium presents a different slant than what is usually assumed about the West, focusing on the survival of the fittest and shoot-outs," Cracroft said. "Many writers see the West as a place with Christian values."

Kevin Klein, 25, a graduate student from Provo majoring in English, said while some may not consider Western literature a source of spiritual values, the symposium will illustrate Western writers did incorporate them into their writing.

The sessions will consist of scholars presenting papers with topics such as "Willa Cather: Charting Her Own Theological Course," "Latter-day Saint Literary Pioneers: Successful Failures and Failed Successes," "Jack London's Spiritual Landscapes," and "Anchors Aweigh: Annie Dillard and the Question of Faith."

The 12 plenary speakers and 20 symposium fellows will join with 50 scholars to examine the faith and values in works of authors including Norman Maclean, Willa Cather, Mark Twain and Jack London.

On Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m., James Arrington will present a one-man play, "Brigham Live! An Evening with the American Moses," in the Arches room of the Marriott Hotel.

The sessions begin on Thursday at the Marriott Hotel at 8:30 a.m. Friday sessions will be in the Wilkinson Student Center from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday sessions will begin at 8:00 a.m. at the Marriott. For more information, call (801) 378-3082.

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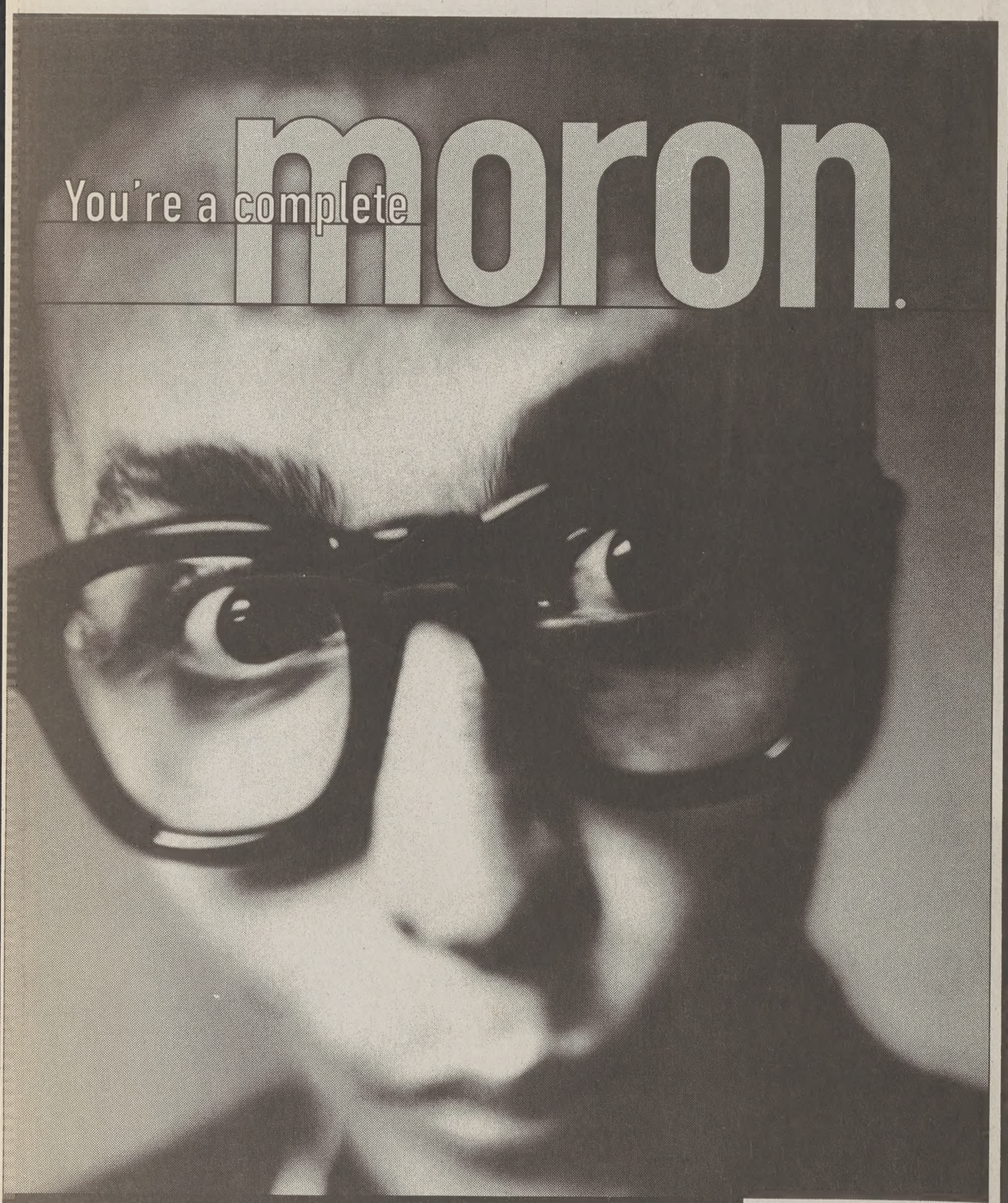
9-9:50	Winners of the Student Paper Competition
10-10:50	Keynote Address: Stephen Ndegwa (William and Democratization in Africa: Work in Progress
11-11:30	David Crandall (Anthropology) Moralizing the Anir World: Himba, Animals and the Strangeness of th Hyena
11:30-12 p.m.	Gary Burgess (History) A Curious Cocktail: Revolu ary Culture in Zanzibar Town

P.M. Session held in the Kennedy Center Conference

1:30-2	Bill Olsen (Anthropology) The Empire Strikes Back cipline and the Creation of Civil Society in Colonial Asante
2-2:30	Chris Conte (Utah State University) A Usable Past ronment and History in East Africa's Highlands
2:30-3	Don Holsinger (Kennedy Center) Whose Educatio All? Progress in African Education
3-3:30	Macleans Geojaja (Education Leadership) What is alization?
3:30-4:30	Panel: The Church in Africa–Robert Eppel, Directo Temporal Affairs–Africa Area; Julie Busse, Thrashe Foundation; and Wade Sperry, Manager of Field C tions for Africa

For more info, please contact Chantal Thompson at 378-28



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Lifestyle Editor: Jenny Stathi
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Photo courtesy of Mandinka Epic

of the Ballet d'Afrique perform a scene from The Mandin-'he Epic is the story of the Mandinka Empire.

ican folklore show ngs history to life

BRINTON WILKINS
RACHEL DAHNEKE
ron@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

st installment in the Per-rts Series, "The Mandinka nsformed the Concert Hall stical land of klore Wednes-

d dance melted o portray the eritage of the Mandinka

g in the 13th century and to the 15th, the Mandinka ntrolled western Africa. dinka Epic" tells the history ends of this empire.

rguably more foreign than else presented at BYU this term, the flavor of the story was familiar thanks to Disney's "The Lion King," which was based on Mandinka legends.

But this wasn't Disney.

With simple scenery, elaborate costumes, pulsating drums and authentic props, the Les Ballet d'Afrique Noire from Senegal brought this tale to explosive life.

Concert Review

Although told in the Wolof language, the performance contained enough raw energy and passion to captivate even the most European of audience members.

The dancers burst on stage in choreographed chaos.

Sheer power dominated the dancing that contained more head-banging than a Metallica concert.

Courtesy of Mandinka Epic

A member of Les Ballet d'Afrique Noire holds a kora, a traditional Mandinka instrument. The show featured many African instruments.

Particularly notable were the women, who never seemed to get a still moment while on stage.

Marring the performance slightly were distortion problems with the microphones used by the narrator and the lead characters.

Overall, however, this performance was an engulfing trip into a culture of power and beauty. It is not to be missed.

"The Mandinka Epic" will be performed this weekend at Peery's Egyptian Theater in Ogden.

This Weekend

biled by MEREDITH YOUNG
dith@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

rtado and Dan Cutler will ive acoustic music in the eater at 8 p.m.
re $3 at the door.

ss section of the Utah Sym-ll perform in the de Jong lall in the Harris Fine Arts 7 p.m. For more informa-(801) 378-4322.

Friday

•The Utah Valley Choral Society will present "Glorious"at 7:30 p.m. at the Provo Tabernacle.

Tickets are $4 for students and are available at Jorgensen's Music, Best in Music, Summerhays Music, Media Play and at the door.

•Clay Walker will perform at the Delta Center, 301 W. South Temple, Salt Lake City, at 7 p.m. Call (801) 325-SEAT for more information.

Saturday

•311 and Jimmy's Chicken Shack will perform at Saltair at 7:30 p.m.

For additional information, call (800) 888-TIXX. Take 1-80 West to exit 104.

•The Donnas and Smugglers will perform at DV8 at 8 p.m. Tickets cost $10. For information, call (801) 539-8400.

•"The Mandinka Epic," a retelling of folk takes of the Mandinka tribe involving song and dance, will be presented at Peery's Egyptian Theater, 2415 Washington Blvd. in Ogden, at 7:30 p.m.

Student tickets cost $12. For more information, call (801) 395-3227.

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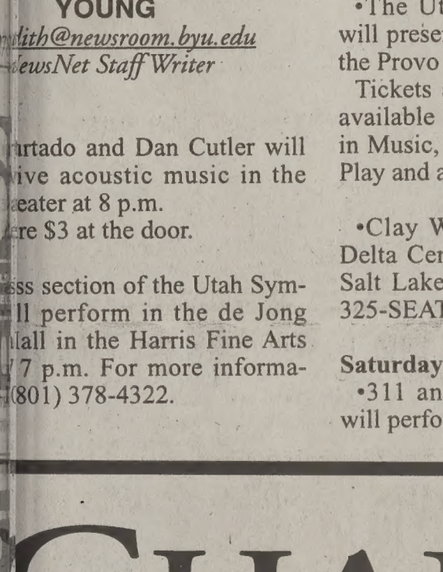

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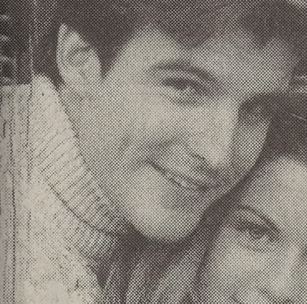

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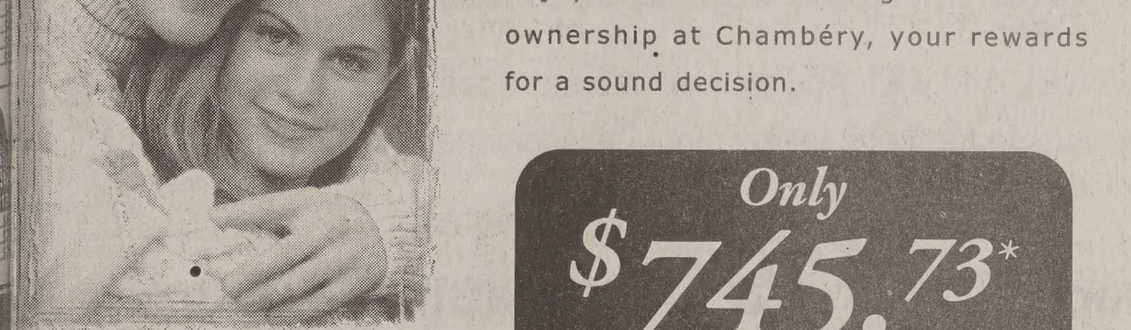

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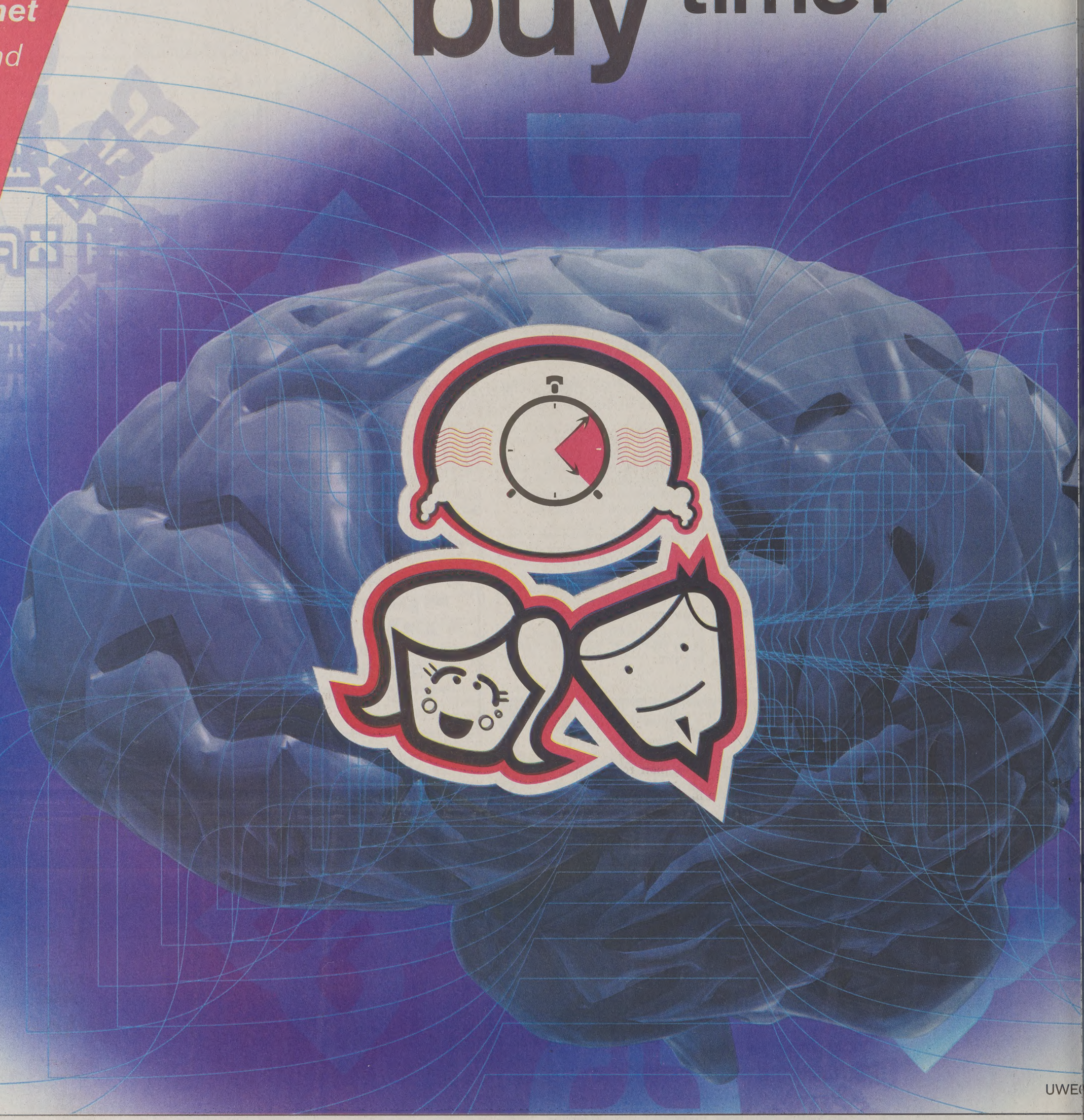

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Bye, bye bibs

A rule says more white home jerseys

RUSS RIGGS
newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

ar football team will much more careful next t down to eat a slab of ibs — the "bibs" are

t. The white fronts on ootball jerseys, affecnown as "bibs," have way with.

ndoned its traditional uniforms last summer nsulted with Nike and more hip dark blue and

out with the new and new.

g to BYU Athletic Val Hale, the NCAA ules Committee passed in February that prowhite on home jerseys r the numbers and

be forced to go with a for home games — an many fans' prayers.

bated this would hapsaid.

llows us to get away the leaders in fashion ck to the tradition of

e, a sophomore majormunications and a life gar fan, said he and he knows is ecstatic hange.

their old uniforms a lot if they have to have the t's best if they take the said.

not the only ones who with the change. A few yers have voiced their gainst the bibs as well.

d they're gone," fullStearns said.

't look like we're sitting at a high chair anymore. But I would play with any colors they give me and wear them with pride."

Linebacker Justin Ena echoed Stearns's comments.

"We didn't mind them but we'll proudly comply with the NCAA," he said in a news release.

"If the NCAA is breathing down our necks, why fight it? Nobody's petitioning to bring them back."

Opposing teams such as Washington and Virginia's quarterback Dan Ellis also voiced their opinion, saying the white in BYU's jerseys caused confusion.

Apparently, opposing quarterbacks could not tell the difference between their receivers and the Cougar's secondary.

"I liked the uniforms we had last year, but we got a lot of complaints from opposing teams," fullback Kilani Sitake said.

"But it's a cop out. If you can't tell the difference between your jersey and someone else's, I don't know what's wrong with you."

Hopefully, the Cougars can now focus on what they do best — playing football — and not dodging criticism from opposing fans.

Ethan Scott/Daily Universe

Jonathan Pittman welcomes the ball with open arms in September. The uniforms, however, were not so fortunate, receiving criticism from fans and players alike.

Baseball's Selig rests easy as the season gets going

Associated Press

This must be the first time since he took over baseball that Bud Selig is not lusting after some other commissioner's job.

His counterpart at the NFL, Paul Tagliabue, spends more time than Batman talking about crime. David Stern and the NBA are experiencing technical difficulties — still too many microphones and not enough Mike. Hockey's Gary Bettman? Don't even ask.

But baseball and Bud are on a roll.

The season opened today in a new and exotic place: Tokyo, where the Chicago Cubs beat the New York Mets 5-3. Sammy Sosa, who commanded the biggest cheers, earned an audience with Crown Prince Naruhito and Princess Masako afterward.

The reception stateside looks almost as promising. There will be two marquee names — Ken Griffey Jr. and Juan Gonzalez — in new towns, three whimsical new ballparks in San Francisco, Detroit and Houston, seven new managers, 25 new umpires, and every new baseball will bear Selig's signature, and his alone.

The only high-profile criminal case in his game at the moment is a possible bigamist named Al Martin. Selig's two biggest public-relations nightmares, John Rocker and Darryl Strawberry, are suspended for 12 games and who-knows-how-long, respectively.

Three of his most appealing players, shortstops Derek Jeter, Nomar Garciaparra and Alex Rodriguez, grace this month's GQ cover. His only microphone-on-a-manager problem came and went during the 1996 World Series, when some network genius cut live to skipper Bobby Cox in the Atlanta dugout barking instructions using language salty enough to shrivel the seams on a baseball.

Judging by Selig's remarks, meanwhile, exporting baseball couldn't be going much better. The principal reason is Sosa, who has turned out to be a more-than-capable stand-in for Mark McGwire. The big redhead wanted no part of playing actual baseball there, but the ban apparently didn't extend to hawking products on Japanese TV.

Sosa, too, smiles back at viewers from TV ads, but by showing up, he got his mug on subway posters and billboards, too. In the days leading to the game, elderly men bowed in his direction wherever Sosa went; female fans in kimonos followed him in processions down the streets. All the while, Selig beamed.

"We hope this is only the first of many such ventures," he said the other day. "It is our hope and dream that the World Series will be what the word connotes — a true World Series. Mark McGwire and I have talked about this, and I know his feelings on the subject. I look at this much differently."

"If this were sheer greed, if this was done just for the money, this wouldn't be worth it," he added.

It might not be quite as noble a cause as Selig would have us believe. But if he got a little carried away, who can blame him?

He could still be celebrating the removal of former umpires union boss Richie Phillips. Or maybe Selig still can't believe his luck at having Griffey, McGwire, Sosa and ZZ Top impersonator Jeff Bagwell of Houston wind up in the same division. He might be giddy because a home run race won't necessarily be the most stirring story line this season; comebacks by some very big names could be.

After missing all of 1999, Atlanta's Andres Gallaraga is coming back from cancer. Chicago strikeout sensation Kerry Wood and Braves closer Kerry Ligtenberg are coming back from arm surgery.

Houston's Moises Alou is coming back from knee surgery after he fell off a treadmill.

All of this doesn't mean Selig is home free — yet. He closed both the American and National League offices, which explains why his name and not those of the league presidents will appear on baseballs.

C going "extreme"

Associated Press

RK — Two years after National Football League, ting back into football - ly unusual partner.

etwork said Wednesday oining with the World ederation, the marketing at turned body-slams into e, to launch a no-holds-reme" football league.

announced plans for the XFL league last month, ors shunned the idea, company's stock plum-

nouncement that it plans the XFL's games and ajor investment in the ve the WWF's shares a esday.

panies insist that the be a real sport, not enterprogramming like WWF in which chair-smashing, antics and bizarre story e preferred tools for lur-

ue's games are to begin ary, right after the NFL's l.

ll be several changes to football to soup up the ever, including eliminatir catch" rule, shortening 10 minutes, and placing microphones in huddles, in locker rooms and on the sidelines.

Whether it's real football will likely be a subject for debate. But NBC's motivations are clear in partnering with Vince McMahon, the chairman of World Wrestling Federation Entertainment Inc., who turned wrestling into a smash success on TV, in live events, and even in book publishing.

"In Vince McMahon, we're getting the best marketer in America," Dick Ebersol, head of NBC sports, said. "We're very interested in riding the success wave of the WWFE."

NBC is taking a 50 percent stake in the venture and has agreed to broadcast games on Saturday nights. NBC is also paying $30 million to acquire a 3 percent stake in the World Wrestling Federation.

The deal marks a break from traditional sports broadcasting deals, under which networks place bids for the rights to show games. Prices for those rights have escalated sharply in recent years, leading NBC to opt out of the $18 billion deal the NFL negotiated two years ago with the other networks.

When McMahon announced formation of the XFL in early February, investors were put off by the estimated development costs of about $100 million. The company's stock fell 25 percent that day.

Golfer takes stage on the green

By ANNA HAYNIE
Haynie@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

A Tiger Woods in BYU's midst? Not quite.

But sophomore Carrie Summerhays is making a name for herself in BYU's golf world.

Summerhays tied for first after sinking a clutch putt on the 18th hole at the EWGA/Lady Aztec Invitational in California on Tuesday.

The BYU women's golf team placed sixth out of 20 schools.

> ***"Three wins by this point in her sophomore year is really quite good."***
>
> *— Gary Howard golf coach*

Summerhays' tournament victory was the first of BYU's season, and the third of her career.

"Three wins by this point in her sophomore year is really quite good," head golfing coach Gary Howard said.

Sommerhays completed two rounds in 145 strokes, a personal best for her.

"I was playing well 100 yards and in," Summerhays said.

"I was pretty happy with my putting and I made a lot of key putts."

Sophomore Adrianne Gibby and junior Summer Pierce both trailed Summerhays by 9 strokes at 79 and the rest of the team was within 3 strokes of that.

"I think the team was a little tired, and I take credit for that, we've had a very grueling schedule this year, which is my fault," coach Gary Howard said.

"We didn't quite have the sharpness that I think we need to have at this point in the year," he said.

Despite this, the level of playing and the direction that the players are headed encourages Howard.

"We're still moving in the direction that we want to go right now," Howard said.

"Anytime now, we could just light up a scoreboard, it's just a matter of time."

Howard said he encouraged the women to start to pick up their game about this time of year.

Next up, the Cougars will host 25 teams in the Utah Dixie Classic at St. George's Sunbrook Golf Course on Monday and Tuesday.

"This is an important tournament for us," Howard said. "If we do well, it will ensure us a position in regionals."

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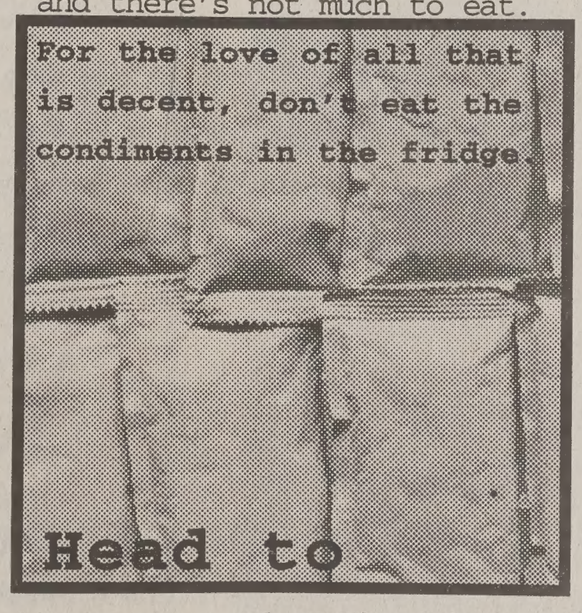
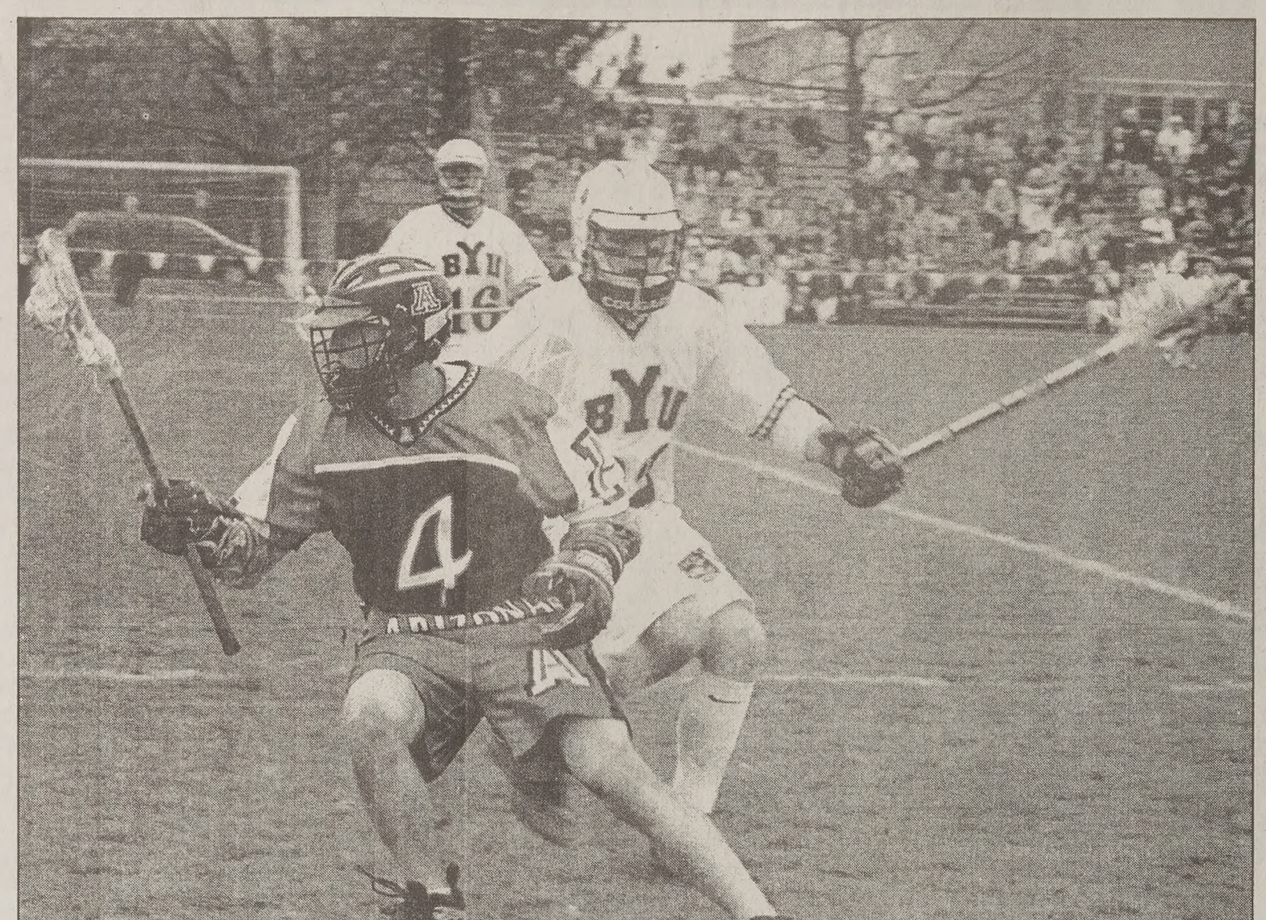


the Pipeline.

On the road again

BYU to play three games in Colorado

By AMBER ALBRECHT
Albrecht@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer



Myra Carlson/Daily Universe

A BYU lacrosse player guards against an Arizona player March 11. The lacrosse team defeated the Wildcats 24-10 and will travel to face University of Colorado, Colorado State, and Colorado College.

The BYU men's lacrosse team will hit the road for the first time since the beginning of their season.

After a convincing 24-10 win over Arizona last weekend, the Cougars hope to continue their play at Colorado where they will face the University of Colorado, Colorado State and Colorado College all within a four-day span.

This road trip won't be a walk in the park either.

BYU is ranked No. 4 behind Sonoma State, and Cal. Berkeley, two teams that handed BYU its 0-2 record away from home.

In addition, two Colorado teams are hot on the Cougars' tail ranking fifth and sixth, and Colorado State is craving a "sweet repeat" of its last season.

After capturing the title last year, to say that 1999 was a great year for Colorado State Lacrosse would be an understatement.

The Rams won the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Lacrosse League top seed for the second year in a row, even though they lost in the finals to BYU, their only challenge in an apparent "field of dreams."

In the National Championships the Rams played their best lacrosse of the year and went on to win the national title with a thrilling four-goal victory in the final game.

> ***"These teams are sick and tired of BYU beating them."***
>
> — Jason Lamb
> Lacrosse coach

"Our toughest game will be our first game," coach Jason Lamb said.

"These teams are sick and tired of BYU beating them and our players need to understand that these are some teams coming out with a little bit of fire."

"There's definitely a rivalry," attacker Brett Thompson said.

"We play these guys every year, and they're always tough and the games are always close, but they don't like us too much."

The University of Colorado is ranked just behind Colorado State at No 6.

The Buffaloes are fueled this year by last season's tough losses to BYU and California as well as the addition of 23 new players.

BYU rumbles into this weekend after rattling off five straight wins at home in the past weeks, but this is the first time they will take the road since February.

"We've really concentrated on ourselves these past weeks," Lamb said.

"We'll see these two teams again in the playoffs and potentially both in Nationals, but this road trip is all about us. We'll do what we know to do and be successful because of it."

"We don't expect any surprises or any phenomenal players," goalie Dave Johnson said.

"These games are the heart of our schedule; the pinnacle of our season for now until tournament time, and we need to take them both to get a number one seed in the tournament."

Jazz snap Sixe winning streak

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Karl Malone scored 30 points and John Stockton added 20 as the Utah Jazz beat Philadelphia 98-84 on Wednesday night, snapping the 76ers' seven-game winning streak.

Malone had 12 points in the third quarter, including eight of Utah's first 10 in the period as the Jazz stretched a 45-41 halftime lead to 55-45 just over three minutes into the second half.

Allen Iverson scored 18 points one night after he had 43 in a victory at Minnesota.

But maybe that took too much out of him, as he shot 7-of-21 against the defense of Stockton and Howard Eisley.

The Sixers never led, but they never gave up either. Twice in the fourth quarter, they came within three points.

The Jazz found an answer each time, and Stockton sealed it with a six-point spurt midway through the fourth quarter.

A basket by Tyrone Hill trimmed Philadelphia's deficit to 79-76 with 5:33 to play, but Stockton hit 18-foot jumper, then came off a screen by Malone to make an 8-footer on the baseline with 4:28 to go.

With 4:01 on the c flipped in a runner fro for an 85-76 lead.

Meanwhile, the Jazz s 17 from the foul lin Stockton's 6-of-6 effort nacek scored 13, Bryc had 12 and Greg Ostert ed 13 rebounds for Utah

Toni Kukoc scored Geiger had 15 and Theo for the Sixers, who had least 100 points in fiv games.

But Philadelphia neve steady rhythm offensiv ing 41.6 percent (32-of-

• Notes: Malone n points to become the f in NBA history to sc points in the same s times. ... Hill drew a fi technical while he s bench. Referee Derric blew the whistle a mouthed off while the up their offense. ... R NBA's No. 4 shot block a game, had four in the ter but finished with fi Jazz have beaten the 7 straight times at home.

Philadelphia is one of that have never won at Center.

NFL opts to keep instant replay

Associated Press

PALM BEACH, Fla. — Instant replay is getting so popular among NFL owners that they may want to keep it for good.

Teams voted 28-3 to continue the system reinstated last season. Replay, which returned after a seven-year absence, will be exactly the same:

Coaches will get two challenges per game, and a replay official can stop play on his own for a challenge in the last two minutes of each half.

The vote emboldened its proponents, particularly among the coaches.

Replay, first instituted for the 1986 season, has always been renewed on a yearly basis, both from 1987-91 and the past two years. That has meant it needs three-fourths of the teams, currently 24 of 31, for approval. If it goes in permanently, it would take three-fourths of the teams to repeal it, a step many may not be willing to take given some of the controversial calls last season.

Cincinnati and Arizona also voted against it for the second straight year.

Kansas City replaced the New York Jets as the third dissenter.

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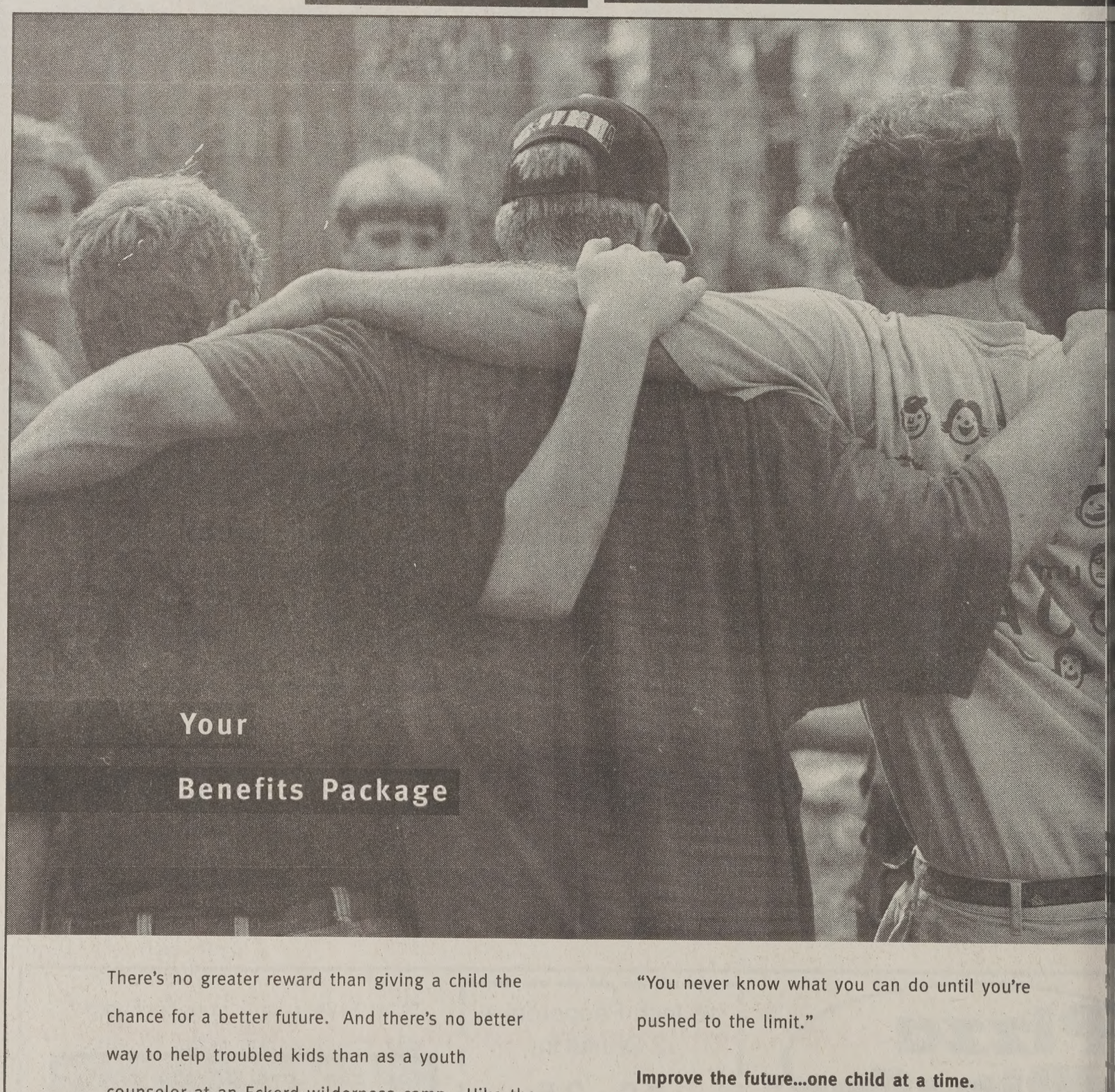

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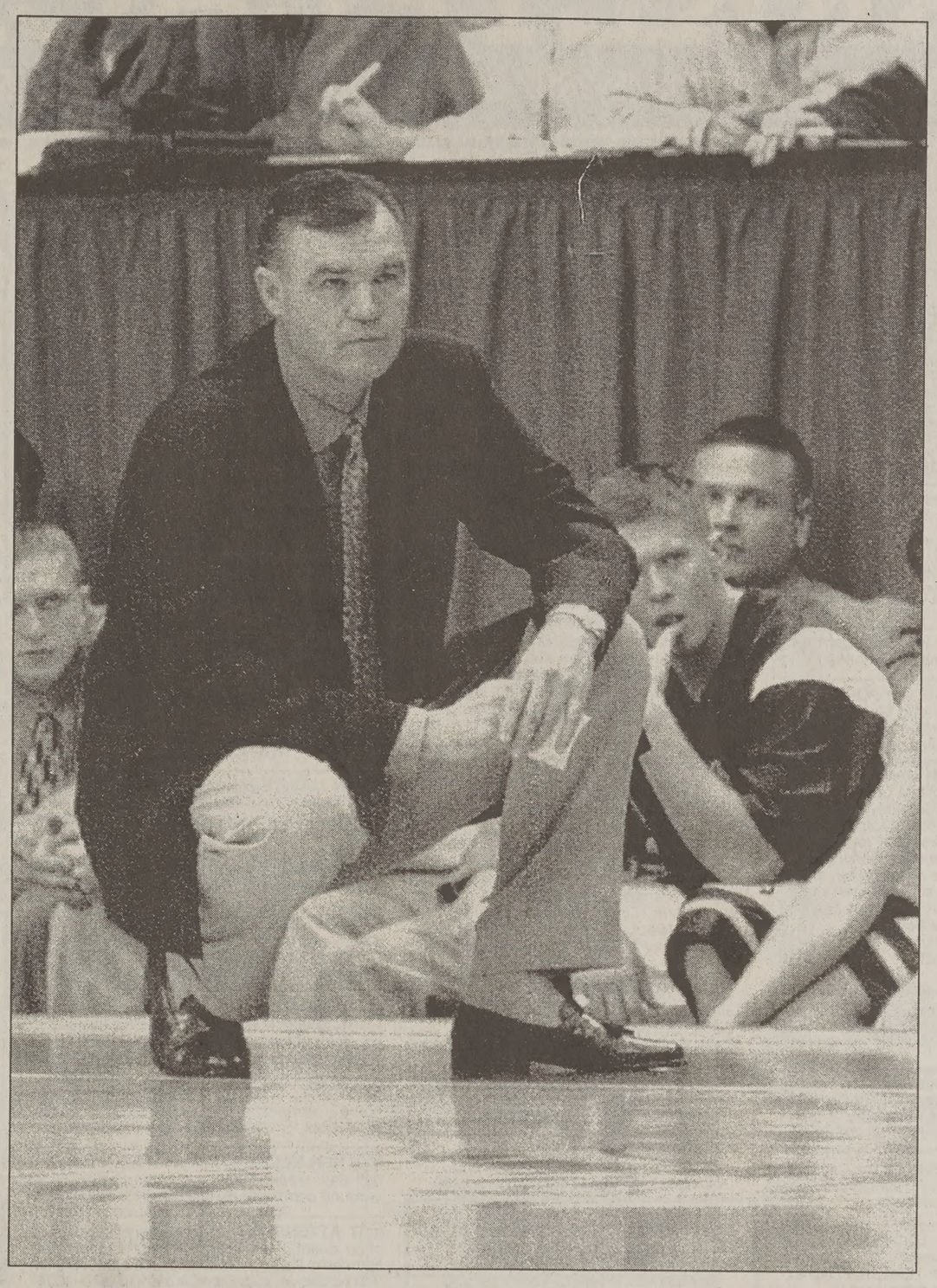

Chris Parkinson/ Daily Universe

BYU coach Steve Cleveland eyes the floor during a home game against New Mexico this season. Cleveland has spearheaded a three-year Cougar hoops turnaround since coming to BYU.

...the BYU men's basket-...ggles like a kid who ...le sister in the closet and ...in it.

...o explain the Cougars' ...ht over a 22-11 season ...20-win campaign in five ... left hoop pundits from ...merican Fork rubbing

...mazement over the most ...rnaround since Truman

...musement over the way ...ont line befuddled bigger

...am exceeded my expec-...robably the expectations ...people," coach Steve ...d.

...the thing that surprised ...t was that we won 22 ...nly two post players."

...ry undersized post play-...ric Nielsen at 6-foot-8 ...Vesley at 6-foot-9 — sort

...listed at 6-foot-9, but I ...h he's not a quarter-inch ...eveland said.

...s the Cougars' in-the-...sive efforts against the ...emoths Utah and Notre ...more mystifying.

...everything about the ...versal from a 1-25 col-...ears ago was a regular X-

...o say we've turned the ...built a solid foundation for ...Cleveland said.

... with Cleveland at the

...er Fresno City College ...become Utah County's ...rity after saving a dead-...t two years earlier than he ...ible when he took the job ...1-25 debacle.

...s you get embarrassed by ...sion," he said.

...sion is natural after the ...n back fans and revived ...iet Marriott Center with a ...surge to the Mountain ...erence tournament final ... Eight of the NIT.

...w the players responded ...the season was very grat-...eland said.

...y because it came after ...rs was lost to knee sur-...ng the Cougars with ...esley and a handful of ...shmen to man the mid-

...my fingers that neither ...keli would get hurt," ...id.

...eathe easier next season when the Cougars welcome a Top 25 recruiting class laden with big men, including 6-foot-9 Jesse Pinegar from Brighton High School and 6-11 Derek Dawes of Cottonwood High School.

Just one problem: their youth.

"I think people need to be a little patient with these freshmen," Cleveland said. "There's a big difference between playing high school basketball in Utah and stepping up to the Mountain West Conference."

But add 7-foot redshirt Dan Howard to the return of everyone but Rivers and the Cougars' interior troubles are seemingly forgotten.

"We'll have a better basketball team next year," Cleveland said. "I don't know if that means we'll win more games, but I know we'll have better players with the guys coming in."

Of course, that's Cleveland's biggest headache now — trying to make room for an overwhelming influx of talent, including:

•Three recruits: Pinegar, Dawes and Danny Ainge's son, Austin who will serve a mission first;

•Three transfers: Guards Travis Hansen (UVSC) and Trent Whiting (Utah), and forward Nate Knight, a bench player at Kentucky;

•A returned missionary: 6-foot-6 guard Daniel Bobnik.

That means serious scholarship shuffling, likely forcing some reserves to come back as walk-ons.

"We're going to have to be very creative to make it all work," Cleveland said.

But for a man who has had to do so much with so little, that is a welcome problem indeed.

CLASSIC AXED: After 26 years, the Cougar Classic won't return next season, the Deseret News reported Wednesday.

The termination of the four-team tournament — which school officials had discussed for several years — became final when Cleveland's staff drew up the 2000-01 schedule.

"It's becoming harder and harder to attract name opponents for the payout we can offer," athletic director Val Hale told the newspaper. "It's been hard to get people excited about it."

Plans for a Classic replacement — a one-night, preseason doubleheader of BYU and Utah playing big-name opponents at the Delta Center — are also questionable.

"It won't happen next year," Utah athletic director Chris Hill said. "It's not a dead issue, we just haven't made progress on it yet."

...rs' climb ...

...1-25 record under Roger Reid and Tony Ingle

...9-21 in Steve Cleveland's first year

...12-16

...0: 22-11; MWC finalist, Elite Eight in NIT

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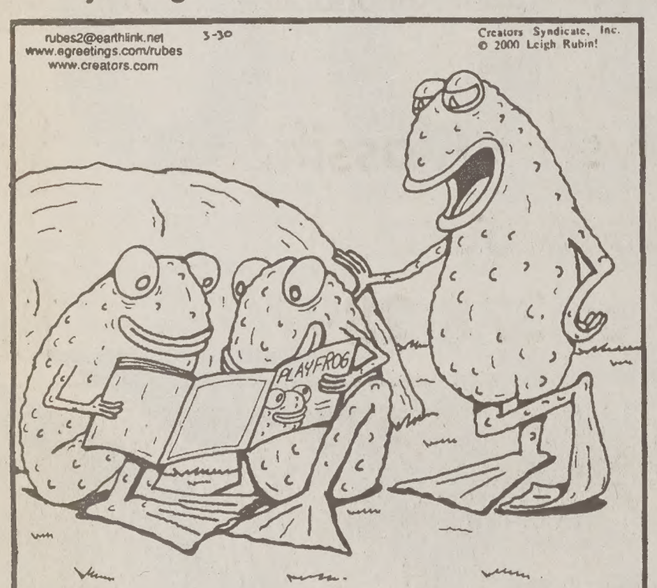

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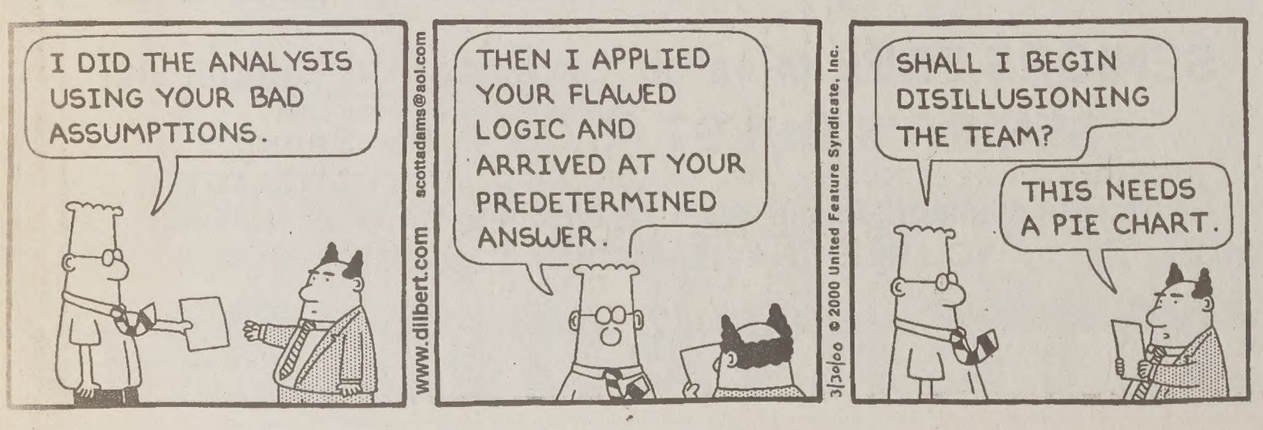
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1/4 cup warm water
2 TLB dry active yeast
5 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 TLB baking powder
1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda
1 cup sugar
1 cup vegetable shortening
1 3/4 cups buttermilk

Place warm water in small bowl. Add yeast and stir to combine. Set aside.
Sift 5 cups flour into bowl, add baking powder, salt, baking soda and sugar. Add shortening and mix until crumbly like coarse cornmeal.
Add buttermilk and yeast and mix well.

Roll dough out on a lightly floured board to a thickness of 1-inch. Cut dough into 2 1/2" rounds and place on a baking sheet.
Bake - no rising time is necessary - in preheated 400-degree oven 15-20 minutes or until golden brown. Yield is approx. 1/1/2 doz.

Yeltsin's immunity secure

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's parliament blocked a move by Communist legislators Wednesday seeking to strip former President Boris Yeltsin's immunity from prosecution.

Yeltsin, whose administration was tainted by allegations of widespread corruption, resigned Dec. 31. His successor, Vladimir Putin, granted him immunity as one of his first acts after taking over as acting president.

The decree, which also offered other perks to Yeltsin and his family, raised questions about whether Putin would take determined measures against Russia's endemic corruption.

Putin was elected president on Sunday, defeating 10 other candidates, including Communist Party chief Gennady Zyuganov, who came in a distant second.

Communists in the lower house of parliament, the State Duma, claimed that the immunity deal violated Russian law and drafted an appeal to the Constitutional Court to check its validity.

Alexander Kotenkov, the presidential envoy to the State Duma, said that Putin's decree conforms with the law. The issue of immunity to former presidents is not regulated by law, so Putin was free to fill the legal vacuum with his decree, he said.

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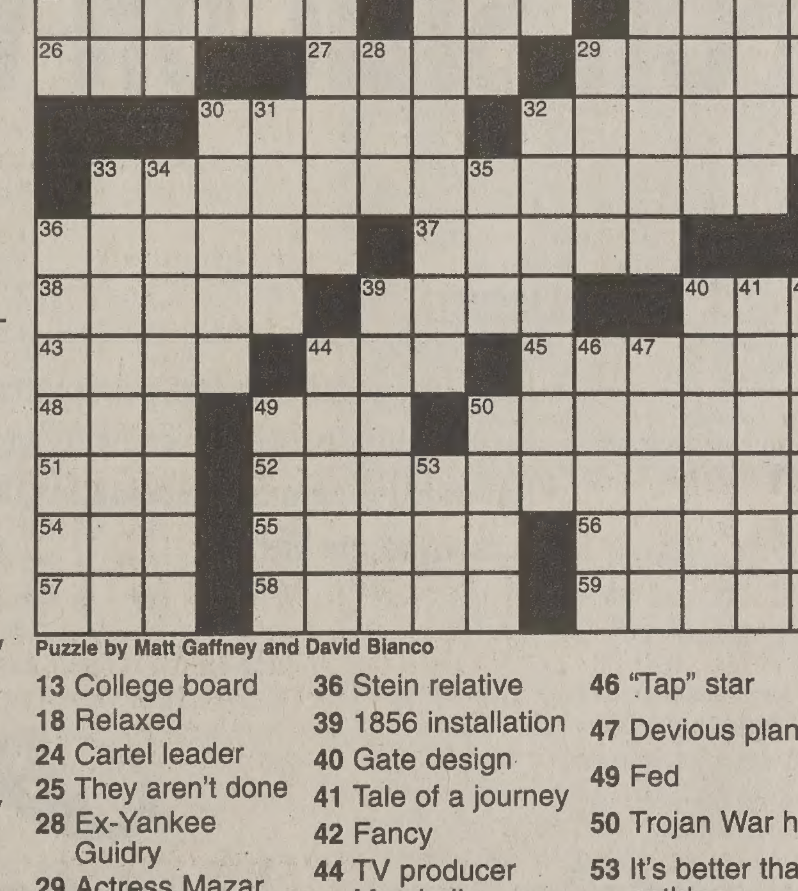
29 Sinker
30 Home health hazard
32 Candy known as "The Freshmaker"
33 Mowgli's medium
36 Boot tip
37 Ancient Greek city-state
38 Zeal
39 Netanyahu, informally
40 "Holy cow!"
43 Element in Geiger counters
44 Game winner's cry
45 Joseph Conrad's "The Secret ___"
48 Consanguine folks
49 Kind of law or order
50 Ill-considered
51 "Wheel of Fortune" buy
52 Nitty Gritty Dirt Band hit, 1971
54 Football positions: Abbr.
55 Washington's ___ Stage
56 Former heavyweight champ Jimmy
57 Address component, these days
58 Part of a 1997 telecommunications merger
59 Like a pomegranate

DOWN
1 Some pilgrims
2 French satellite launcher
3 Perfecting
4 With fungi, they form lichens
5 Hawks
6 Much of Mongolia
7 Letters in many black church names
8 Noted French-born English writer
9 Good looks?
10 Harper's Weekly artist
11 Make a pass at
12 Post-accident question
13 College board
18 Relaxed
24 Cartel leader
25 They aren't done
28 Ex-Yankee Guidry
29 Actress Mazar
30 Satellite's job
31 Cracked open
32 Grammy winner Manchester
33 Assailed
34 Pleasure seeker
35 Alternative to a passing shot
36 Stein relative
39 1856 installation
40 Gate design
41 Tale of a journey
42 Fancy
44 TV producer Marshall
46 "Tap" star
47 Devious plan
49 Fed
50 Trojan War hero
53 It's better than nothing



Puzzle by Matt Gaffney and David Blanco

...D PREVIOUS PUZZLE

	O	S	H	A			A	T	L
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D	E	B	T			F	A	U	N
	M	A	P	S		T	S	P	S
T		B	E	A	S	T			
H	E	Y	A	S	S	U	M	E	
O	M	S		S	T	R	O	N	G
R	E	A	L		S	N	I	T	S
	R	T	E	S			E	R	A
B	A		S	O	N	A	T	A	
E	L	I	S	T	E	N	I	N	G
L	D	S		S	E	N	E	C	A
A	S	T			D	O	S	E	S

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute).
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Clinton found in violation of Privacy Act

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Resurrecting an impeachment controversy, a federal judge ruled Wednesday that President Clinton "committed a criminal violation of the Privacy Act" by releasing personal letters to undermine the credibility of one of his accusers.

Clinton immediately disputed the decision, saying he reluctantly released the letters two years ago because "it was the only way I knew to refute allegations" by Kathleen Willey of an unwanted sexual advance.

U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth, a Republican appointee, concluded the president and three top White House lawyers disregarded an earlier court ruling in making Willey's letters public in the midst of the Monica Lewinsky scandal in 1998.

"This court cannot accept or condone this unlawful action," Lamberth wrote in a decision that clears the way for a lawsuit filed by the conservative group Judicial Watch to delve further into the issue.

Initially, Lamberth's ruling simply requires White House lawyers to answer questions they earlier rejected about the decision to release the letters. But it could open the door for an eventual lawsuit by Willey.

And the Justice Department, which is reviewing the decision, has an open investigation into another impeachment-related release of damaging information about a critic — the Pentagon's release of data from Linda Tripp's personnel file.

Independent Counsel Robert Ray, who must decide whether to indict Clinton after he leaves office, cannot prosecute a Privacy Act case because it only is a misdemeanor.

Clinton disputed Lamberth's ruling and said at a news conference that his lawyers would proceed accordingly. He said he never even considered the Privacy Act when he made the decision to release the letters.

The president said he "decided to do it reluctantly, only because it was the only way I knew to refute allegations that were made against me that were untrue."

He also took a swipe at Lamberth, noting the Republican appointee "somehow acquired a significant percentage of the cases involving the White House. That's an interesting story."

"We ... are confident it will be overturned on appeal," White House counsel Beth Nolan said of the ruling.

The judge, who has presided over several lawsuits filed against the Clinton administration by Judicial Watch, minced no words in his ruling, writing, "The president committed a criminal violation of the Privacy Act."

The judge said former White House Counsel Charles F.C. Ruff, Deputy Counsel Bruce Lindsey and former Deputy Counsel Cheryl Mills engaged in discussions that led to the release of the letters. And he rejected White House arguments that the lawyers' conversations were protected by attorney-client confidentiality.

"The discussions regarding the release of the Willey letters, even if initially protected by the attorney-client privilege, fall squarely within the crime-fraud exception," Lamberth wrote.

He noted the lawyers recommended that the president release the letters, and juxtaposed that decision with a ruling he made nine months earlier that the White House needed to adhere to the Privacy Act.

"The White House and president were aware that they were subject to the Privacy Act, and yet chose to violate its provisions," Lamberth wrote.

Presidential aides used the letters to undercut Willey's allegations, saying the correspondence showed the Virginia woman remained friendly with the president after the alleged sexual encounter. Clinton has steadfastly denied making the advance.

Phone calls to Willey and her lawyer in Powhatan, Va., were not immediately returned Wednesday.

Lawrence Barcella, a veteran Washington lawyer, questioned the judge's decision.

"In Clinton's case, he appears to be relying on the advice of his legal counsel. Differing legal opinions don't always equal a violation," Barcella said.

David Sobel, general counsel for the Electronic Privacy Information Center, said Willey may have a strong basis for a lawsuit against the president. "It is highly unusual, if not unprecedented, for a court to find a criminal violation of the Privacy Act," Sobel said.

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Smaller planets found outside solar system

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Astronomers searching for planets orbiting distant stars have found the smallest planets yet beyond the solar system, an important step toward being able to detect Earth-sized worlds that would have the best chance of containing life.

More than 30 planets have been found in orbit of stars outside the solar system, but the two planets announced Wednesday are the first to be smaller than Jupiter, astronomers said at a news conference.

The new planets are thought to be hot, gaseous giants, rapidly orbiting their stars and are probably devoid of life, said Geoffrey W. Marcy of the University of California, Berkeley.

"This (discovery) suggests there will be many more small planets out there," said R. Paul Butler, a staff scientist at the Carnegie Institute in Washington.

A team led by Marcy, Butler and Steve Vogt of the University of California, Santa Cruz, found the new, smaller planets in orbit of stars more than 100 light years away. Both of the new planets are slightly smaller than Saturn, a gas giant that is the second largest planet in the solar system after Jupiter, with 95 times the mass of Earth.

All previously discovered extrasolar planets, including 20 others found by the Marcy team, have been as big or bigger than Jupiter, which is 318 times more massive than Earth.

The team is five years into a survey of about 2,000 stars and Marcy said there are six to 10 other star systems that "look promising" for planets.

"The discovery of Saturn-sized object is an extremely critical step toward finding terrestrial-sized planets orbiting other stars," said Heidi B. Hammel, a scientist at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo. The terrestrial planets are Earth, Venus, Mars and Mercury.

Marcy said that all planets found so far have wide-swinging eccentric orbits, in contrast to the nearly circular orbits of the Earth and its sister planets in the solar system.

He said the stable, circular orbit of the Earth "may have something to do with the fact that life flourished on our planet."

Anne Kinney, a NASA scientist, said current technology will never be able to detect Earth-sized planets, but the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is developing a program to eventually be able to visually detect worlds beyond the sun.

Scientists, students perish off Baja coast

Associated Press

BAHIA DE LOS ANGELES, Mexico — As one of the world's foremost experts on scorpions and spiders, Gary Polis wanted to teach the world that the creatures should not be loathed or feared but appreciated for their integral place in the ecosystem.

This week, he and four other researchers apparently died in the rough waters off Baja California while returning from a expedition to study Polis' passion.

Their 20-foot power boat was upended by wind-churned waves, and they were tossed into the thrashing Sea of Cortez.

The bodies of three team members were found Tuesday. Polis and another researcher were still missing Wednesday, but university officials said they were presumed dead.

Polis' enthusiasm for the kinds of creepy crawlies that send shivers up the spines of many people inspired scores of students to follow him to Mexico over the years to poke through the arid Mexican landscape and discover their virtues.

Polis, three Japanese researchers and five students from the University of California at Davis were headed for Bahia de los Angeles, a remote village 300 miles south of the Mexican border, just before noon Monday after a morning of studying spiders and scorpions on an island.

After being thrown into the rough water, the group spent two hours clinging to the boat, while the waves "just pounded us," said one of the four survivors, Gary Huxel, 38, a post-doctoral researcher in ecology.

The 53-year-old Polis appeared to suffer a heart attack and die, UC Davis spokeswoman Sylvia Wright said, citing accounts from the survivors and U.S. officials.

Eventually, Huxel said, the group used life jackets and seat cushions to float away. After three more hours in the water, Huxel washed up on one deserted island; three students reached another.

The four of them were rescued Tuesday, sunburned and spent.

Mexican authorities recovered the bodies of three team members: UC Davis researcher Michael D. Rose, 28; and two ecology professors from Japan's Kyoto University — Takuya Abe, 55, and Masahiko Higashi, 45.

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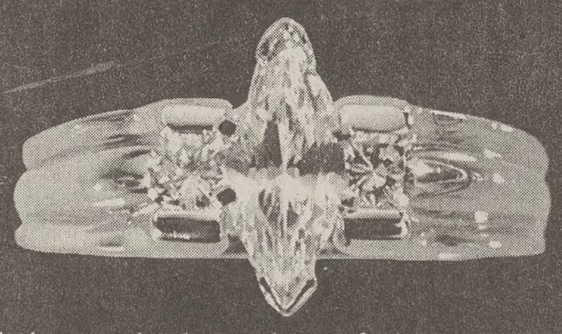
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